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**HT (R)** — An 26

### MORONI (R) — The prime minister and acting president of the Comoros has formed a new government, a month after a failed coup led by veteran French mercenary Bob Denard. Mohammad Cash Al Yachrouotu named the 15-person government, the second since the coup was reversed by French military intervention, on Tuesday evening. The new "government of national unity and transition" includes four ministers from parties that supported the coup by Mr. Denard and some 30 mercenaries, whose action led to the removal and exile of President Said Mohammad Djohar. They included Rural Development, Fishing and Environment Minister Ansuddine Abdullah and his colleague from the Udzima Party, Minister of Planning, Industry and Cortage Industries Said Ben Oussein. The other ministers from a party that backed the coup are Information, Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Abdou and Islamic Affairs and Employment Minister Delifou Omar. Both are members of the Comoros National Union for Democracy Party. After his release by Mr. Denard, Mr. Djohar was taken from Comoros to the French Indian ocean island of Reunion by French troops,

Comoros premier forms new government



Yeltsin "does not look good" — aide

MOSCOW (AFP) — A presidential advisor who met with Mr. Boris Yeltsin Wednesday for the Russian leader's first working visit since being hospitalised last week said Mr. Yeltsin does not look good. "The atmosphere in the hospital is taking its toll on Mr. Yeltsin and I cannot say that the president looks good," presidential adviser Viktor Ilyushin told the ITAR-TASS news agency. "The president himself is aware that a second cardiac episode in four months is no joking matter," the aide said. Mr. Yeltsin was hospitalised in July for the same problem that landed him in the hospital Thursday - restricted blood flow to the heart, a condition which can lead to a heart attack. Ilyushin met with Mr. Yeltsin for 10 minutes. The meeting was originally to have lasted an hour but was cut short at the

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### Qatar siams U.S. Congress vote

DUBAI (R) — Qatar on Wednesday described last week's vote by the U.S. Congress to move the American embassy to Jerusalem by 1999 as a negative resolution that could gravely harm peace efforts, the Qatari News Agency said. It said the Qatari cabinet, meeting under the emir, Sheikh Hamad Ben Khalifa Al Thani, "has expressed its denunciation of the attitude of the U.S. Congress on moving the U.S. embasy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. "It is a negative resolution that will gravely harm the efforts to complete the Middle East peace process and which contradicts U.N. resolutions on the status of Jerusalem," the cabinet said.

#### Peace deals cost israel \$1b — report

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel has budgeted nearly \$1 billion through 1998 for carrying out its peace agreements with the Palestinians and Jordan, an Israeli newspaper said Wednesday. The figures were contained in the proposed 1996 state budget which was approved by parliament in a first reading Wednesday. According to the Haaretz daily, Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho in 1994 cost \$356 million. The next pullback from West Bank towns and villages, slated for later this year, is to cost \$533 million, Included in that sum is the cost of paving bypass roads for Jewish settlers. The finance ministry has dismissed estimates by senior army officials who said last week the West Bank r to visit Britani pullback could cost as much as \$1 billion. Implementation of the peace agreement with Jordan, including the consings, cost \$70 million.

#### Kuwait, S. Arabia 'not to deal with Saddam'

KUWAIT (AP) — The emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd have agreed in talks this week they would continue to have nothing to do with Saddam Hussein, Al Qabas newspaper reported Wednesday. The inned homes for dependent daily said King or patrolled sure Fahd and Sheikh Jaber, who returned home Tuesday after a two-day visit to Saudi Ararampage last the president viewed the Iraqi security and stability of the region. The Kuwaiti emir's Dennis And visit to Saudi Arabia followed ined 10 press a call last month by the Unr flare-up 10 and ited Arab Emirates for the was pleased w lifting of U.N. sanctions imty's efforts who posed on Iraq for its August ty's enterest of m 1990 invasion of Kuwait. of the arrest of a Kuwait rejected the call, 50 juveniles for a saying lifting the sanctions the city's open less than the city's open less than the city's open less than the call, saying lifting the sanctions was a matter only for the United Nations to decide. Saudi Arabia is known to share Kuwait's view on the call, saying lifting the sanctions was a matter only for the call, saying lifting the sanctions of the city's open lifting the city's open lifting the sanctions of the city's open lifting t on inc source Kuwait's view on the issue. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia where I went had and the UAE are grouped in where I went and the UAE are grouped in the Sulf Cooperation Council (GCC) — a regional alliance of which Qatar, Oman and Bahmin Tatar, rer, he cannot be B Oman and Bahrain are also ue would not members. Qatar was the only until

## 8 **expelied** families

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel has allowed eight Palestinian NON (R) expelled from Libya to enter the Gaza Strip, army radio reported Prime a reported P NON (R) radio reported. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin allowed their entrance as a humanitary of the sacred Him direct plea from Yasser Arata, the specific of the fat, the report said. The fact has sacred as a transfer of the fat, the report said. a, the sacred a fat, the report said. The fami-tat he regarded is lies have been sitting on the influence on his border between Forms on the influence on pure border between Egypt and the sold at all Another Gaza Strip for machine ne sold at alking on the Gaza Strip for weeks after a Phillips Alking Libya deported over a said the hook with thousand Palestinians from d on Nov. O while its territory since September, bundreds of whom were stranded to felch fill hundreds of whom were ected to felcial stranded for weeks on the 8,000 (50 miles burnered for weeks on the Egyptian border. Several hundred Palestinians expelled from Libya crossed into the angular than the agreement of the several burnered for weeks on the Egyptian border. ssassinated the autonomous West Bank once described how of Jericho from Jordan last more described how the same last more described

## King: Jordan will serve as model for democracy, political pluralism

MENA summit reflects public-private sector interaction

AMMAN (J.T.) - His Majesty King Hussein has reiterated his belief that Jordan would serve as a model of democracy, political pluralism and respect for human rights and that all in the Middle East region would feel the fruits of peace. The King, in an interview

with Cable News Network (CNN) broadcast on Jordan Television Wednesday evening, also said that the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) summit which concluded in Amman on Tuesday, was the fruit of interaction between the private sec-

tor and government.

The King also reiterated his call for a dialogue between the three main elements of the Iraqi society aimed at solving the country's problem and putting an end to the suffering of the Iraqi

Following is the King's in-terview with CNN in a question and answer form:

QUESTION: If we could begin by looking at Jordan's changing role within the region and perhaps Jordan's changing role with Iraq, if you could give us your thoughts on where you believe Iraq's future lies or

ANSWER: With regard to Iraq I believe it is a very important country in this region. It is a country with a very rich heritage; it is a country where pluralism could be a fact of life; it is a country where democracy is missing; it is a country where respect for human rights is unfortunately not there. I believe that the future is important for Iraq in the sense that we hope that it will be an important, vital part of this area. And I believe that the only way to achieve that is to encourage, as rapidly as possible, a meeting and a dialogue between all the

very much indeed in bringing about the change for the better and save Iraq from what it is suffering right now.

Q: But there was quite a change over the past number of years, and Jordan is now at the forefront of the peace process taking a very active role. How has this come about do you believe, and what does it mean for the future of your country? A: I believe that Jordan has

found that it has a message, it has something to say, it has something to contribute in this region. And Jordan is a democracy which we hope will offer an example to others in the region. It is a pluralistic society, and we hope that our respect for human rights will also be an example to others. We hope that we can do whatever is possible to stress the importance of the individual in shaping responsibly the future of his country wherever he is. As far as the peace

have always sought peace as a dream that has become a reality; peace for ourselves, our future generations, peace for our neighbours, peace for the region, and with it obviously, all the advantages that hopefully will materialise in a change of the quality of life for all Jordanians and for all the people in this region.

O: Your's has been a very active participation in the peace process... there are those however, who believe or fear that this is still a King's peace. What does it take to make it a people's

peace as well? A: I believe it is a people's peace. It is coming along very, very rapidly in that direction... the majority of people in this country, through the constitutional process, have approved of peace, have opted for it. In fact, that was the case before

(Continued on page 7)

## **Peace Now: Settlers squat** in empty W. Bank houses

components that make up Iraq. This will, I believe help

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Hundreds of Jewish settlers have moved illegally into empty houses in West Bank settlements, an Israeli peace group has said.

There are 3,300 empty housing units in the West Bank, according to Israel's housing ministry. The ministry refuses to rent or sell them because of the government's freeze on settlement building. Construction of the units began under the previous government, which encouraged settlement in the occupied territories.

Mossi Raz, political secretary of the group Peace Now, which supports giving the occupied territories to the Palestinians, said government documents show that about 650 of 3,300 government-built houses in the West Bank are illegally occupied. Some of these houses are in areas that are expected to be turned over to

Palestinian control. Mr. Raz said many of the settlers are there not for ideological reasons, but with the intention of asking the government for compensation if they lose their homes.

GAZA (Agencies) — Pales-

tine Liberation Organisation

(PLO) officials and rival

Hamas leaders said on Wednesday the killing of Isla-

mic Jihad chief Fathi Shaqaqi

in Malta harms Palestinian

National Authority (PNA)

contacts with hardline groups

to end attacks against Israel.

down in Malta on Oct. 26.

Islamic Jihad in the Gaza

Strip accused Israel of the

assassination and vowed to

destroys the meetings which

are taking place between us

and Hamas and Islamic

Jihad." Mohammad Dahlan

"It creates a barrier of mis-

trust in the (PNA's) promises

to these organisations that we

will live in stability without

interventions from the Israeli

PLO Chairman Yasser

Arafat has been trying to

persuade Hamas, the Islamic

Resistance Movement, to

abandon armed attacks

against Israelis threatening

the PLO's peace deal with

Hamas spokesman Mahmoud Al Zahhar told

Reuters: "It puts a lot of

difficulties in front of dia-

logue between any Palesti-

He said that the main de-

mand by the PNA in the

nian faction and the (PNA)."

Israel.

"What happened in Malta

avenge his death.

told Israel Radio.

Shaqaqi, 43, was gunned

"They are stealing and most are not idealistic," he

"Most of these people want a comfortable place to live and then hope to get compensation when they move out."

When someone is found 'living illegally in a government-built house, a complaint is filed with the police, according to the housing ministry. The ministry keeps no records of how many complaints have been In Ramallah, unknown

unmen seriously wounded a Jewish settler in a drive-by shooting on Wednesday, Israeli police and a settlers' spokesman said. No group claimed respon-

sibility for the attack, but Palestinian militants opposed to peace with Israel have in the past carried out similar shootings on West Bank

Police said the settler, 32year-old Rabbi Uzi Nevo, was seriously wounded by shots apparently fired from a stolen United Nations car. Two masked men stole the car minutes before the

PLO, Hamas say Shaqaqi

killing destroyed truce bid

dialogue had been to suspend armed struggle against Israel.

mic Jihad accept what harms

it?" he said, insisting that

Hamas made no pledges yet

on suspending armed attacks.

He said such a decision will

be made only after negotia-

tions with the PNA are con-

Israeli Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin said on Tuesday

he hoped for a reconciliation

between the PLO and

Hamas, the PLO's main mili-

for an agreement that would

end "terrorism." Hamas and

Islamic Jihad, which remain

implacably opposed to Israel,

Hamas leaders at home

and abroad have appeared at

odds over how to deal with

the PNA as Israel hands over

Palestinian towns and villages

in the West Bank to the PLO.

to Shaqaqi threatened to take

revenge against Mr. Rabin.

will pay dearly. We have a

rendezvous with you, you co-

wards who assassinated Sha-

qaqi in the back when he

dared to face you," warned

Islamic Jihad's new leader,

Ramadan Abdullah Shallah.

qaqi's funeral in a Palestinian

refugee camp of the outskirts

He was speaking at Sha-

In Damascus, the successor

"We say to Rabin: You

have killed scores of Israelis

in suicide bomb attacks.

Mr. Rabin said he hoped

cluded.

tant rival.

"How can Hamas or Isla-

attack, police said. It was later found abandoned in the nearby town of Al Bireh with bullets in it. Asked about the attack,

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat told reporters in the Palestinian-ruled Gaza Strip: "We are against it com-

But Mr. Arafat doubted it would slow peace moves with

"We have to expect some events here and there. But the main thing is what we have agreed upon and signed," he said.

Settler spokesman Aharon Domb said three bullets were fired at Rabbi Nevo's car near the entrance in Kochav Yaacov, a settlement of 200 families beside main road linking Jerusalem to Ramal-

Security sources said Israel barred Palestinians from entering self-ruled Jericho in the West Bank to prevent the attackers from seeking re-

About 140,000 Jews live in settlements scattered among (Continued on page 7)

'We are addressing you,

you assassins, and we say to

you, Rabin... listen closely:

you have triggered a hard war

because the head of Shaqaqi is worth Jerusalem," said Mr.

He denounced the PNA

for failing to ensure Shaqaqi be buried in his native Gaza

"The authority of shame

and defeat which promises us

a state has not even been able

to ensure a tomb in Palestine

for Shaqaqi," who was expel-led by Israel in 1989, he said.

Tens of thousands of mour-

ners attended the funeral, as

Shaqaqi was laid to rest

alongside other fallen Palesti-

"Resistance is our honour,

Armed Syrian police

our dignity, our destiny,

read a banner carried by the

escorted cars in the funeral

motorcade, which carried

members of the Iranian-

backed Lebanese group Hiz-

bollah, as it wound its way

towards the Yarmouk camp

where Shaqaqi was buried.

After prayers in a mosque.

white shroud was removed

from the coffin and replaced

by flowers. The coffin was

carried more than a

kilometre to its resting place

alongside other fallen Palesti-

(Continued on page 7)

nian militants.

mourners.

Shallah.

## France argues for nuclear weapons

THE HAGUE (R) — France urged the International Court of Justice on Wednesday to reject a United Nations request for advice on the legality of nuclear weapons.

A French foreign ministry legal official argued that the request was inappropriate and that a nuclear deterrent was key to national selfdefence. The World Health Orga-

nisation (WHO) and the U.N. General Assembly have asked the court, the U.N.'s main judicial body, to give an historic, though non-binding, pronouncement on whether international law permits the threat or use of nuclear

On the second day of pubic bearings at the court, France argued that the requests were "manifestly inadmissible" and "disturbing" and should be rejected.

Marc de Brichambaut, foreign ministry legal affairs director, insisted that individual nations should be allowed to determine their own defence policies, particularly in the case of selfdefence.

"I would warn the court against a formula which ... would imply an assessment of a defence policy based on deterrence," he told the 14 judges.

"Such an approach would call into doubt the very basis of legitimate defence, a principle which ... protects the existence of states when they

suffer armed aggression." Last Friday France staged its third nuclear test in the South Pacific since September, one of a series planned by Paris before it signs an iternational treaty banning all tests. The tests have met widespread international

condemnation. Mr. De Brichambaut said France was committed to working towards a nuclearfree world, but only through the existing channels of negotiation and not through abstract legal finding.

"France wants to make a significant contribution to peace and stability, both by affirming a strictly defensive doctrine and by participating in a determined and constructive manner in efforts to reduce arms and, beyond that, towards a general and complete disarmament under efficient international control,"

Underlining the French argument, Alain Pellet, professor of international law and member of France's legal counsel, said: "The court is not a legislator, it is a purely judicial body," and had no

(Continued on page 7)

#### His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday receives Bahraini Trade Minister Sheikh Saleh Al Saleh at the Royal Court (Petra photo) King receives Bahraini minister and congratulations on the success of the Middle East AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein met The meeting was at the Royal Court on and North Africa (MENA) attended by Prime Minister Wednesday, with Sheikh Saleh Al Saleh, Bahrain's Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, During the meeting, the Royal Court Chief Marwan minister of trade, who contwo sides reviewed topics Al Qasem and His Royal discussed at the conference veyed to the King greetings Highness Prince Talal Ben from Bahraini ruler Sheikh Mohammad, the King's as well as regional and in-Isa Ben Salman Al Khalifa

## Rival Balkan leaders in 'last-chance' peace talks

DAYTON (Agencies) — Balkan rivals were meeting on Wednesday for what are being hailed as last-chance talks to end four years of bloody war and rearrange ex-Yugoslavia to allow sworn enemies to co-exist in peace.

Cajoled by international mediators, they face the daunting task of dividing up the ruins of Bosnia to give separatist Serbs a territory of their own while meeting Bosnian government demands for a unified state.

A second issue on the table is the peaceful return of Croatia's eastern Slavonia region from rebe! Serbs to government control, with the threat of Zagreb's armed intervention if the talks fail. U.S. President Bill Clin-

ton, who has put his full weight behind the peace initiative, insisted the parallel talks must not fail.

"It may be the last chance we have for a very long time," he said on Tuesday. "Only the parties to this terrible conflict can end it. The world now looks to them to turn the horror of war to the

promise of peace."
The parties themselves, the leaders of Serbia, Bosnia and Croatia expressed cautious optimism when they arrived on Tuesday evening at the high-security conference site, Wright-Patterson air force base near Dayton.

But after four years of devastation, 200,000 killed or missing and more than two million displaced, nobody was underestimating the difficulties facing the talks, which could go on for weeks. Meanwhile the Bosnian

Serbs are continuing to expel Bosnian Muslims and Croats from Serb-held areas of northern Bosnia, in contravention of the terms of the current Bosnian ceasefire, the state-run Croatian news agency Hina said in Zagreb. Some 44 Bosnians — 36

Muslims and eight Croats who had been "violently thrown out of their homes by the Bosnian Serbs," crossed the Sava River from Bosnia into Croatia late Tuesday, the agency said.

They were in Wednesdat in Croatian town of Davor, it

On Tuesday, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said that "ethnic cleansing" of the Croats and Muslims from the region was continuing.

Over 22,000 Muslims and Croats have been kicked out of the area by the Serb authorities since Aug. 14, 1995, according to UNHCR fiare Bosnian Croats, 7,619 Muslims and 41 belong to

different ethnic minorities. U.S. chief negotiator Richard Holbrooke said in Dayton on Wednesday the opposing factions were hardening their positions in advance of the talks and he could not be sure of a successful outcome

"They are digging in," he told NBC television's "Today" show. "They're hardening their positions over the last few days in anticipation of very tough talks and we're not promising anything here except our best shot.

Bosnia's Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic said he had high hopes the talks would bring "justice and democra-

"We cannot revive the dead. We cannot revive the 17,000 children dead in Bosnia. But we can get iustice here and that justice means a fully functional Bosnian state, integrity, sovereignty, justice and democracy.

Arriving amid controversy over whether he should be allowed to attend at all, Serbia's President Slobodan Milosevic said he was optimistic the talks would yield a

## **Opposition accuses Baghdad** of blast that killed 28 in north

ANKARA (Agencies) --- An Iraqi opposition official said on Wednesday Baghdad was responsible for the bomb that killed at least 28 people and wounded 70 in Kurdishcontrolled northern Iraq.

"It was definitely the Iraqi regime that did it," Hamid Al Bayati, London representative of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Resistance in Iraq (SCIRI), told Reuters by telephone.

The Iraqi National Congress (INC) umbrella opposition group, which wants to overthrow President Saddam Hussein, said at least 28 people died on Tuesday when a bomb exploded in its security office in the town of Salahuddin in northern Iraq.

The London press office of the organisation said work was still under way to clear the rubble.

The Ankara office of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), which controls Salahuddin, said the number of bomb attacks had risen in the town, but it was too early to speculate on the identity of the bombers.

The KDP is one of two warring Iraqi Kurdish groups that have split the region into

competing territories.
The INC, headquartered in

northern Iraq since 1992, has tried to mediate between the KDP and rival Patriotic Un-

ion of Kurdistan (PUK). Since the end of the 1991 Gulf war northern Iraq has been protected from attacks by Baghdad by a Western allied air force based in Tur-

Íraqi Kurds have often blamed Baghdad for attacks in northern Iraq, including some directed at aid agencies

to rebuild the region. In early September an Iraai Kurdish leader escaped unharmed when a bomb planted at a roadside in the PUKcontrolled city of Erbil was detonated by remote control as his motorcade passed.

The INC said Monday that Shiite Muslim rebels had been deployed in northern Iraq to launch joint attacks on Iraqi government forces. An unspecified number of militiamen from the Badre Brigade arrived south of the city of Subeymaniya.

The INC has launched an investigation to try to determine who was behind the

'We condemn this monstrous action. We are waiting for the outcome of the investigations but it seems Saddam Hussein had a hand in it,"

INC Vice President Latif

Rashid said.
"This is the dictatorship in Baghdad's first present to the people since the referen-dum," Mr. Rashid said, referring to the October 15 vote which returned President Saddam Hussein to power for another seven-year term.

But he refused to speculate on who else could be behind the attack, saying information was still sketchy.

Northern Iraq has been the scene of violent inter-Kurd clashes, as the PUK led by Jalal Talabani and Masoud Barzani's KDP have fought over sharing power and vital tax revenues since May 1994.

More than 2,000 people have died in the clashes, according to Kurdish sources. Apart from the INC, the United States and Turkey have also been trying to

mediate a peace accord. In February a massive carbomb killed up to 80 civilians. and wounded 200 others when it ripped through a busy shopping area in Zakho in

northern Iraq. In September two bombs attacks in Erbil, the main town of northern Iraq, left eight people dead and 14

e knowledge by last month, but they all held valid permits to live in the Gardhi's could be dition from the control of the country of the cou

ashing yellow list of their cars, follow t off 182 mes. level since |0 until Wedness GCC member to publicly 1g. This is no p welcome the call. Egypt and brate, he said Sudan also welcomed it.

ndhi's sacred enter Gaza text to be

auctioned

AL 'AIN (R) - President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan may pardon the young Filipina maid facing 100 lashes in a United Arab Emirates prison, sources close the case said on Wednesday.

"It (a pardon) is not definite but it is under serious consideration," one of the sources told Reuters.

An Islamic Sharia law court on Monday sentenced the maid. Sarah Balabagan, to 100 lashes and a year in jail for killing her 70-year-old Gulf Arab employer. She would then be de-

ported. The sentence reignited an international outcry sparked by an earlier death sentence against her for the premeditated murder last year of Almas Mohammad Al Baloushi in this oasis town. She said she stabbed him

34 times in self-defence as he raped her, a plea rejected at her second trial although the verdict at the first hearing was that she had been raped. Protests in Manila were rapidly followed by pleas

from the French foreign

ministry and members of the U.S. Congress for her to be spared corporal punishment. The prospect of death by firing squad was swept aside last month after Sheikh Zayed persuaded the Baloushi family to accept 150,000 dirhams (\$41,000) blood money in exchange for

dropping their insistence on The UAE leader was praised in Philippines newspapers for his compassison. One paper said he had shown that mercy could be found even in the harsh Arabian

Much international attention focused on the maid's

UAE government, citing her passport as evidence, said she was 28. Philippines authorities said her papers were forged by labour racketeers to get her a job in the Gulf.

Fresh outrage at the prospect of a caning was undim-med by assurances that Ms. Balabagan would not be flog-ged violently.

The lashes - to be administered by a policewoman holding a book tucked under her arm — would be purely symbolic and painless, Philippines President Fidel Ramos's chief of staff Ruben Torres said in an attempt to ease public shock.

The chief judge who pronounced Monday's sentence, Sheikh Biy'a Ben Saliq, later told Reuters the number of lashes at any one time would depend on Ms. Balabagan's pain threshold.

In a telephone call to her father from prison on Tues-day, Ms. Balabagan pleaded for mercy and appealed to Sheikh Zayed to pardon her.

The maid's parents, Karim and Bai Balabagan, took her bananas and fresh clothing

when they visited her in Al

\*Ain prison on Wednesday.

Philippines embassy officials present at the reunion. their first meeting since Monday's sentence, found the maid dressed in a bright purple blouse and dark skirt and in a subdued mood.

They said she told her parents:

"I am willing to take the lashing if it means immediate freedom. But I'm still hoping for a pardon from Sheikh Zayed. If being lashed means freedom now, I will take it." She also told her parents she saw two Filipina women

being lashed in prison, the officials said. She massaged age. Ms. Balabagan and her family said she was 16 but the after the lashing.

## Musaveni to visit Egypt amid tension with Sudan

CAIRO (Agencies) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni is to make a threeday visit to Egypt starting on Thursday to meet his Egyptian counterpart Hosni Mubarak, an official said Wednesday.
The two leaders will hold

talks on "African matters and bilateral relations," the official, with the Egyptian presidential office, said.

Egypt and Uganda both have running disputes with Sudan and the visit comes after Khartoum accused Kampala on Sunday of sending troops into south Sudan to back a rebel offensive there.

Uganda denies involvement, but Sudan said Tuesday it plans to bring a complaint before the United Nations.

Kampala broke diplomatic ties with Khartoum in April, accusing it of backing a Christian militant guerrilla faction, the Lird's Resistance Army (LRA), which is fighting to overthrow President Museveni.

Cairo accuses Khartoum of backing militants waging a violent three-day campaign against the state and of assisting the June assassination attempt on Mr. Mubarak in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

Uganda said on Wednesday it was taking seriously threats by Sudan, and would fight back with full force if

"It is the duty of a national army to defend the integrity of the country. If they come,

let them be assured that we

shall be there," Minister of State for Defence Amama Mbabazi told Reuters in Kampala.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali Osman Mohammad Taha said on Tuesday that fighting in southern Sudan was "by all standards an open military invasion of Sudan."

He said Sudan would take diplomatic, political and military measures to protect itselt.

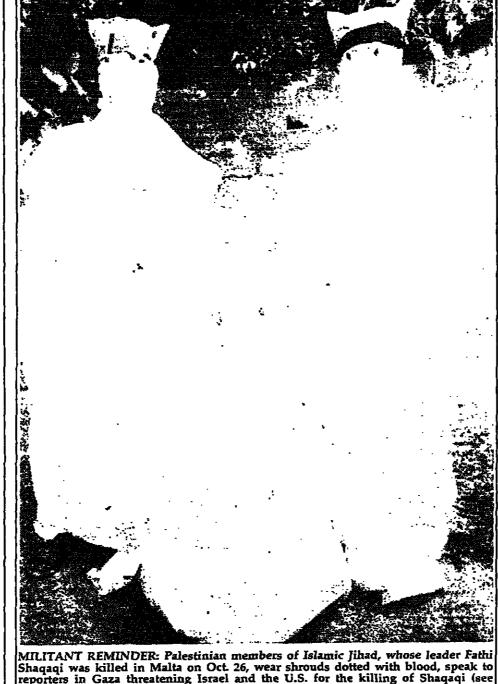
Mr. Taha said Uganda must be behind the fighting because the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) was not able by itself to launch the kind of military offensive waged against Khartoum's forces in the south in the last week.

Sudan said on Monday Uganda had launched a cross-border attack backed by tanks and artillery in support of the SPLA.

But Uganda and the SPLA denied there was any Ugandan involvement in the fighting. Uganda said Khartoum was trying to divert attention from a successful SPLA offensive.

Aid workers and diplomats said last week the SPLA had begun its largest antigovernment attack for years and captured the town of Parajok. They said SPLA forces continued to head

Mr. Mbabazi said Uganda was committed to dialogue with Sudan to end mistrust and accused Khartoum of not being committed to a reconciliation agreement signed last June.



Shaqaqi was killed in Malta on Oct. 26, wear shrouds dotted with blood, speak to reporters in Gaza threatening Israel and the U.S. for the killing of Shaqaqi (see page one) (AFP photo)

## Belgian court easy on Somalia soldiers

BRUSSELS (R) - A Brussels military court on Tues-day acquitted nine Belgian soldiers accused of maltreating Somali children during a United Nations mission in 1993, and gave another an eight-day suspended jail sent-

in the case against six remaining soldiers from a group of 16, based in Somalia as part of a peacekeeping mission.
All 16 had been accused of

Judgment was suspended

threatening behaviour and violence against young Somalis who entered their camp effects and equipment.

Lieutenant Bruno Vander-

vellen, given the eight-day suspended sentence, admitted carrying out mock executions, making the children dig what they thought would be their graves and frightening Study: Masada siege lasted only weeks, not months

TEL AVIV (AP) — Taking a whack at a cherished legend

of Jewish valor, an American

scholar says the Roman siege

of the mountaintop fortress

of Masada lasted weeks -

not years as many Israelis

Calculating the Roman

army's work capacity, Jonathan Roth of San Jose State University in California

concluded that the siege

lasted, at most, two months

after the 10th legion arrived

at the steep-sided Mesa near

the Dead Sea, where 967

Jewish zealots were holding

"The siege only lasted as long as it took to build the

ramp" leading up to the for-tress, Mr. Roth said in a

telephone interview from

California. "That took a

minimum of four weeks, a

maximum of eight and most

them by firing into the air. The prosecutor had demanded six-months' impris-

"(The judgement) takes account of the situation on the ground," said lawyer Jacques Piron. Mr. Piron had defended another soldier accused of

dangling a child from a bridge over a river said to be infested with crocodiles. "Maybe it was excessive behaviour, but the court mar-

tial considered that in the exceptional circumstances of Somalia it was acceptable," judgement.
"It was perhaps a way of

reacting to children who, excessively and repeatedly, came to their camp and stole their civilian and military material," Mr. Piron added. In 1993 some 1,000 Belgian

probably about six weeks."

are challenging the conclu-

sion, saying it ignores ele-ments like the extreme heat

of the Dead Sea area. Meir

Ben-Dov, who helped exca-

vate Masada in the 1960s,

maintains the siege lasted ab-

Masada, southeast of Jeru-

salem, was the last outpost of

the zealots during the Jewish

revolt against Rome that be-gan in 66 A.D. After Roman

battering rams breached the

fortress' gates, the Jews com-

mitted suicide rather than be

First-century historian

Josephus Flavius reported

that the Romans laid siege to

Masada in 73 A.D. while

building a ramp about 90

metres tall. Most archaeolog-

ists have estimated the siege

lasted between four and

out eight months

taken prisoner.

Some Israeli archaeologists

U.N. peacekeepers were in Somalia, mainly in Kismayu. They were responsible for patrolling an area about twice the size of their home coun-

In July of that year independent human rights group Africa Rights published allegations of abuses by U.N. troops in Somalia and singled out the Belgian force as being particularly brutal and hated as a virtual army of occupa-

The Belgian defence ministry said at the time incidents in the report had been blown up out of proportion.

More than 30,000 U.N. troops were deployed at the peak of the U.N. operation. begun in 1992 to keep militiamen and bandits from blocking supplies to end famine in the country.

seven months. Popular wis-

dom holds it lasted years.

The notion that Jewish

zealots held the Romans at

bay became one of modern

Israel's most compelling

national myths. At one time,

Israeli armoured troops

swore allegiance on the

plateau by declaring "Masa-

Mr. Roth, an assistant pro-

fessor of history, said the

story has been greatly ex-

He said the Roman forces

numbered some 9,600, not

including thousands of slaves

and conscripted Jewish

labourers. They first built a

4.2-kilometre stone wall sur-

rounding the plateau and

then erected the ramp.

which, according to Dan Gill

of the geological survey of

Israel, was laid on a natural

da shall not fall again."

aggerated.

## **NEWS IN BRIEF** Turkey assails

Russia

over

**PKK** 

ANKARA (R) — Turkey on Wednesday criticised Russia

for allowing a meeting of a

Kurdish group that includes

representatives of rebels

fighting a separatist insurgen-

cy in Turkey and demanded it

"It is up to Russia to im-

mediately heal the wound that has been inflicted on

bilateral relations," Foreign

Ministry spokesman Omer Akbel told a news briefing.

"We now expect the meeting to be stopped."
Mr. Akbel said Turkey did

not accept Russia's explanation that they had allowed the

meetings as it was originally

billed as a scientific seminar

and not a political gathering.

Turkey at the start of the

week lodged a complaint with the Russian ambassador over

the three-day meeting in

Moscow that began on Mon-day. Mr. Akbel said the

meetings could adversely

The Kurdish Labour

parliament-in-exile includes

representatives of the Kur-

dish Labour Party (PKK).

whose 11-year fight with the

Turkish army for autonomy

or independence in southeast Turkey has killed more than

Russia has denounced the

meeting, saying it had no-

thing to do with the

parliament-in-exile. The in-

auguration of the group last

April in the Hague sparked a

diplomatic row between Tur-key and the Netherlands.

Mr. Akbel also welcomed

a call by the European Parlia-

ment's foreign affairs com-

mittee to renew contacts with

Turkish deputies by lifting its

block on the Turkey-

European parliament joint committee.

"The European parlia-

The block was instituted

last year to protest against the trial of eight Kurdish

parliamentarians for alleged

separatist activities. Four re-

main in jail serving 15-year

Mr. Roth computed that it

usually took about 20 days

for the Roman army to build

ramps during their siege of cities. At Masada, "there

were too few defenders for

them to have slowed down

the Romans in any significant

His conclusions were pub-

lished in the latest issue of

Scripta Classica Israelica, an

annual academic journal of

the Hebrew University of

Jerusalem, and appeared last

weck in the Haaretz news-

Professor Hannah Cotton,

an editor of Scripta Classica

Israelica, said the essence of

the Masada story remains un-

Romans for four weeks is

significant enough," she said.

"Even standing up to the

terms.

rock formation.

way," he said.

paper.

blemished.

ment, by doing this, will cor-

rect a mistake it made in the

past," Mr. Akbel said.

affect relations between the

two countries.

18,000 people.

be stopped immediately.

### Suharto: No Israel ties discussed

JAKARTA (R) - Indonesian President Suharto said on Wednesday he did not discuss opening diplomatic ties with Israel during his recent talks with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. "The meeting was to exchange information, so there were no other problems discussed, such as diplomatic relations, etc...," President Suharto told reporters on board his aircraft. He was returning to Indonesia after an 18-day trip to the Americas, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. "The meeting was only a continuation of my (previous) meeting... because Israel sees Indonesia as the country whose majority of people are Muslim," he said. President Suharto held talks with Mr. Rabion in New York on Oct. 21, the second such meeting between the two leaders, Mr. Rabin made a surprise visit to Indonesia two years ago to meet President Suharto, the first by an Israeli leader, but Jakarta has so far ruled ou opening diplomatic ties.

### Iranian diplomat released from Argentine hospital

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Iran's top diplomat was released from hospital Tuesday, 10 days after he was shot and seriously wounded by a gunman on a motorcycle. Under tight security and accompanied by family members, Charge d'Affaires Gholamali Rajabi Yazdi drove home from the Sacred Family Clinic where he had been held in intensive care for three days. A gunman shot Mr. Rajabi intensive care for three days. A gunman shot Mr. Rajabi Yazdi through his car window Oct. 21 as he was driving through the suburb of Belgrano with his wife and two young daughters. The diplomat managed to keep driving until he reached the medical clinic. Reports did not say whether his formula was injured. The leaving the same was injured. whether his family was injured. The Iranian governm blamed the attack on Israel, which denied involvement. senior Iranian official travelled to Buenos Aires la Sunday to investigate the shooting. The Israeli government, local Jewish organisations and some Argentin officials have blamed Iran for backing the bombing of Jewish cultural centre that killed 95 people in July 1994 Iran also was suspected in the 1992 bombing of the Israel embassy in Buenos Aires, which killed 29 people.

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By Amy Henderson

Jedan Times

AMMAN — An American

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### Eight killed in Saudi fire

RIYADH (AFP) — Eight people died in their sleep earl Wednesday when a fire swept through an apartment building in Saudi Arabia's southwestern city of Abha, the newspaper Al Riyadh reported. General Salah Al Wabe civil defence chief in the Assir region, told the newspan most of the dead were Saudis and that seven other people were hurt in the blaze which may have been caused by

### Riyadh, Ankara plan joint anti-drugs fight

RIYADH (AFP) — Saudi Arabia and Turkey are trying thammer out a cooperation accord to fight drug trafficking Turkish ambassador to Riyadh Turkekul Kurttekin sai Tuesday. "Contacts are going on between officials from the two countries' interior ministries to look at document linked to a cooperation accord to fight the trafficking a drugs," he said without giving any date for the signing of such an agreement. Four Turks caught smuggling draw such an agreement. Four Turks caught smuggling drug into the kingdom were publicly beheaded by sword in Sant Arabia on Aug. 11 and 14. And another 70 Turks nationals are detained in Saudi prisons for trafficking narcotics with 20 having been sentenced to death, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said. Ankara has opted for "discreet diplomacy" in the affair in order not to harm the fate, Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman Omer Albe said in August. The Saudi anti-drug squad announce Tuesday it had arrested several foreigners and seized kilogrammes of heroin worth \$14 million, the biggest be for years. Since 1987 Saudi Arabia has imposed the deat penalty on drug traffickers and repeat abusers. Riyadhiz carried out a record 191 beheadings this year, mainly to

## OAU to send 50 observers to Algeria

ADDIS ABABA (R) — The Organisation of Africa Unity (OAU) said on Wednesday it was sending observers to Algeria to monitor a presidential election guerrillas have threatened to wreck. The OAU said the observers, consisting of OAU staff and representatives of member states, were being sent for the Nov. 16 election response to a request from the Algerian government. The team would set up command post in Algiers and deploracross the 48 regions of Algeria for the election, it added African diplomats in Addis Ababa said Musa Traore, the former president of Mali, might lead the observer team! Algeria, leaving Addis Ababa on Nov. 11. An OA spokesman declined to comment on who would head the observer mission.

## 'Kuwait's Arab, Western allies plan war games

KUWAIT (R) - U.S. officers have demonstrated American war management computer programme to Arab and Western counterparts preparing exercises among Gui war coalition countries, Kuwait's Defence Ministry said of Wednesday. "The (computer) system is being used outside the U.S. for the first time." a ministry statement said after four days of talks by officers from Egypt, Syria, France, the United States, Britain and six Gulf Arab countries. It said the allies used the so-called Battle Analysis System to draw up scenarios for exercise ultimate resolve aimed showing the 1991 alliance against Iraq is still in operation The exercise from April 13-17 will be a compute generated command post manoeuvre to help the 11 alli standardise procedures and communications and improteam-building skills and coordination on logistics at

#### **JORDAN TELEVISION** Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

13:00 Ins — The Happy Professor
13:20 Fireman Sam
13:30 My Socret Identity
14:00 Mountain Men
15:00 The New Leave It to Beaver
15:30 Gillette World Sport Special
16:00 White Heat
17:00
Children's Programme: Cocotte Minute
17:30
Varieties and game show — Le
Varieties and game show — Le Monde Est a Vous

News in French ... Magazine — Archimede News Headlines News recaumes
National Geographic
The Album Show
The New Avengers
News in English . Feature film; "Coogan's Bhiff

## **PRAYER TIMES**

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## 115 AV	(Sunrise) Duha
11:19	Dhuhr
14:23	'Ası
16:50 .	Maghrch
18:65	'Isha

## **CHURCHES**

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785, St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440. De la Saile Church Tcl. 661757

Church of the Appunciation Tci. 623541. Anglican Church Tel. 652826. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.

ian Orthodox Church Tcl. //3201, St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. 652526 elical Letheran Church Tel: R24328.

German-speaking Evangelical Con-gregation Tel: 845457 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saisus Tel. 654932 Church of Nazarene Tel.675691. The Evangelical Local Church in Tel. 811295

## WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-ment of Meteorology.

Fair weather conditions are expected to prevail during the weekend with skies partly cloudy. There will be a chance of scattered showers and winds northwesterly moderate. In Aquiba, winds will be

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR Khalifch pharmacy ...

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 24 Aqaba 26. Humidity readings: Amman 32 per cent. Aqaba 52 per cent. USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

**NIGHT DUTY** 

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Fires pharmacy	661912
Fordows pharmacy	7783,36
Al Asema pharmacy	637055
Nairoukh pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacouh pharmacy	644945
Shmersani pharmacy	637660
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Najih pharmacy	847637
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Dr. Yousef Abu 5a'd	959010
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## **EMERGENCIES**

Highway Police 843412
Traffic Police 896390
Public Scenity Department 630521
Hotel Complaints 665801
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Scwerage 67467
Complaints 897467 Amman Municipality Complaints
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) ... Overseas Calls ...

Central Amman Telephone Water Authority Jordan Electricity Authority 815615 Electric Power 

RJ Flight Information .... (8-5320) Queen Alia Intl. Airport (8-5320)

## HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity .... 642362 Jaoia Amman maternity 1842/12 Malhas, J. Amman 636140 Palestine, Shmeisani 607071 Shmeisani Hospital 66913 University Hospital 845845 Al-Muscher-Hospital 672278 Al-Muasher-Hospital ..... 667227/9 The Islamic, Ahdali ..... 66127/37 Army, Marka Solia 1/15

Oucen Alia Hospital 602240/50

Amal Hospital 607155

The Arah Centre for Heart and Special Surgery ...... 865199 ZARQA:

Zarqa Govi. Hospital (09)/#3323 Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560 Ilm Sina Hospital ...... (09)986732 Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)99(144)

Princess Basma Hospital ... Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nalces Hospital .... . (02)275555 Princess Haya Hospital .... . (03)314111

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT** ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ)

**QUEEN ALIA** 

(Terminal 1)

14:00	Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
17:26	Sansa (RJ)
17:00	Agaba (RJ)
19:26	Dhahran, Riyadh (RI)
19:30	New Delhi (RI)
10.05	Beirut (RJ)
10-70	
10.55	Muses Pubsi (P1)
14.72	Muscat. Dubai (RJ) London (RJ) New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
10:45	London (RJ)
10:45	New York, Amsterdam (KJ)
17:35	Muscat (RJ)
17:58	Kuaia Lumper (add) (RJ)
18:25	Athems (RJ)
18:40	Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
19: 10	Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ) Al 'Ain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:35	Al 'Ain Abu Dhahi (R1)
10-14	
17.JJ	
23.3V 22.34	Lamaca (RJ)
WT., XI	Jeddah (add) (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Ahu Dhahi, Doha (GF Shariqah (AH)
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### Doha (Q7) Dubai (EK) Paris, Damuscus (AF) Beirut (ME) 19:00 . 20:10 . 20:20 . 23:10 . 23:10 Istanbul (TK) 91:15 London (KJ) 91:25 Amsterdam (KL) **DEPARTURES** Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Terminal 1)

..... Beirat (RJ) Aqaba (RI)
Muscat (RI)
Muscat (RI)
Abu Dhabi, Al'Ain (RI)
Montreal, Toronto (RI) 87:15 11:15 .. London (RJ) .. Athens (RJ) .. Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ) ......... Jeddah (add) (RJ)

......... Larnaca (RJ) ... Bahrain. Doha (RJ) 19:50 New Delhi, Kuali Lumpur (add) Cairo (RJ) Jakarta (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2) ... .... Beirst, London (BA)

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..... Bcirut (ME) Ahu Dhabi, Al 'Am, Muscat (GF) 13:30 ...... Algiers (AH) 14:30 ...... Rayadh (SV)

istanbul ( HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIF Dep. Amman ... 8:00 a.m. every Mon Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Mon Dep. Damascus 7:30 a.m. every Sun Arr. Amasum ... 5:00 p.m. every Sun MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in fils per kg. ......7007 <sup>#</sup> Banana (Mukammar) 67 Cabbage 180 / 18 Carrot .... Cauliflower Grape Fruit .. Marrow (large) . Marrow (small) Olives (green) Onion (green) Onion (dry) ...

<sup>- K</sup>adi Faynan, organis bassy Club on Frid Cucumbers (large) ...... 200 / 15 Cucumbers (small) ..... 320 / 2 Aftermath of Wo 750/60 650/50 danian Impressions" thon of Kheiri Manson 200 / A Sin at Abdul Hameer 450133 and Abdul Hameer 250 15 250 15 250 16 200 / 152 200 / 152 200 / 152 200 / 152

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sary and which includes two Jordanian projects carried out in cooperation with the United Nations Devel-Programme opment (I'NDP) was presented Wednesday to HRH Princess Basma by the head of the regional office of the UNDP, Sa'ad Frarji. Magic World looking for legal

By Amy Henderson

Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN — An American company Wednesday said it is continuing to explore legal options against a local newspaper for a story it alleges is defamatory.

AMMAN (Petra) - A

booklet issued on the Unit-

ed Nations' 50th anniver-

Richard Ligon, chief operations officer of Magic World, a company planning for a multi-million dollar theme park on the southern shore of Aqaba, said that Magic World, and its parent company, Group LLC. would continue to consult with legal councils in Amman to examine all possible legal options against an Arabic daily after the paper failed to print a retraction of statements published on Oct. 24 and 28 alleging that the company

was a "phoney entity" with a \$200 capital. The daily on Wednesday ran what Mr. Ligon called a "nearly verbatim" statement the company made to

the press prior to the open-

ing day of the Middle East and North Africa summit, which said that the comments published in the were "absolutely

HRH Princess Basma Wednesday meets with the head of the regional office of the

United Nations Development Programme, Sa'ad Frarji, UNDP Resident Representative Jørgeb Lissner at the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (Petra photo)

UN presents Princess Basma

The UN official also

delivered to the Princess a

UNDP list containing 100

prominent personalities including the Princess and

HRH Crown Prince Has-

Princess Basma thanked

the UNDP for its contribu-

tions to Jordanian develop-

ment projects especially

those aiming to improve the

living conditions of the

poor and rural communities

with particular attention to

women and children.

around the country.

attended the meeting.

"was contrary to what was

Group LLC also present-

ed a letter to the Jordan

Times from the company's

certified public accountant

which stated that Group

LLC holds assets in excess

of \$3 million, and showed

the company's expenditures

on the Aqaba project thus

far to be nearly \$1 million.

To date, Magic World has

signed a letter of agreement

with ARA to build a resort

on 566 dunums of Aqaba's

south coast, complete with

a 400-dunum theme park

and a 256 room, five-star

Mr. Khasawneh told the

Jordan Times that ARA was

prepared to proceed with

the ratification of the pro-

ject and expected it to be

referred to the cabinet for

hotel.

printed in the press."

with anniversary booklet

"What was published today (Wednesday) should have been done in the first place," said Alan Fulscher, director of business ventures at Group LLC, "but it's not a retraction. We would like a full apology and a full retraction of

said that they had written communication from the daily saying that "the company bore us no ill-will and that the information was received from 'official sources,' and that the paper "indicated it was planning

our disappointment that the paper did not print a retrac-

tion," Mr. Fulscher said. ty (ARA) President Fayez

that after investigating the company, official information held that Magic World's financial situation

faise."

those statements." The two businessmen

to write a retraction." "We would like to express

Aqaba Regional Authori-Khasawneh said last week

sen Hanif left for home Wednesday praising the outcome of the meetings which ended Tuesday evening and saying that the region should start feeling the results of the three-day conference in the near

AMMAN (Petra) — The Kuwaiti delegation to the

Middle East and North

Africa (MENA) economic

summit led by Abdul Muh-

Mr. Hanif, who is undersecretary of the Kuwaiti Finance Ministry, said his country did not submit any proposals for projects but that they did take part in discussions over various proposals at the national and the regional levels. He noted that the region has vast potential for investors by the private sectors.

The Kuwaiti official and his delegation were seen off at the airport by Finance Ministry Secretary General Suleiman Hafez and the Kuwaiti charge d'affaires in

Amman. Also Wednesday Director General of the Qatari Chamber of Industry and Trade Majed Maliki said the chamber will soon organise an exchange of visits to Qatar and Jordan by Jordanian and Qatari businessmen to follow up discussions on topics taken

jects for joint investments to be carried out in Jordan and the Palestine self-rule areas, according to Mr. Maliki. He sad members of the Qatari delegation to the

MENA summit included Jordanian and Palestinian businessmen living and working in Qatar. The first Deputy Foreign

Minister of China Tian Ching left Amman for the West Bank Wednesday after taking part in the MENA

up by the MENA meeting. The 43-member Qatari delegation discussed pro-

Delegations leave Jordan on optimistic note

13-member delegation. He

described the meeting as highly successful.
The Chinese official said

conference at the head of a that the Chinese delegation held talks with Jordanian business people on prospects for joint investment projects. Mr. Ching

also said the Chinese government supports and will organise further meetings between the business communities in both countries.



Kuwaiti Under-secretary of Finance Abdul Muhsen Hanif Wednesday is seen off from Marka Airport by his Jordanian counterpart Suleiman Hafez (Petra photo)

## Mideast needs 30m more telephone lines, says company executive By Cathy King

AMMAN — The Middle East region needs 30 million more telephone lines and \$112 billion to procure them, a senior executive of the communications giant,

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

Motorola, has said. The Princess reviewed Telecommunications conwith the UN official the stitute one essential comporole of the Queen Alia Fund nent for economic developfor Social Development ment, as well as a source of (QAF) through 45 centres education for a "booming generation", a panel of six UNDP Resident Represpeakers agreed during a Middle East and North sentative in Jordan Jørgen Lissner and QAF officials Africa (MENA) summit workshop on Information

Superhighway

Tuesday evening. Regional telephone density currently registers an average 5.5 per cent, but to accelerate economic development this needs to be increased to 30 per cent, said Nynex (USA) President Dan Petri.

Telecommunications held

"In Jordan, there are six to seven telephone lines per 100 people. This is slightly higher than the regional average. In the United Arab Emirates, there are 30 per 100, and this level needs to be seen throughout region," Mr. Perri said.

One barrier to such expansion of telecommunication networks is the justification of the cost against the value, noted Hanan Achsaf, managing and country director of Motoro-

la, Israel.

Mr. Achsaf said: "There is a need for 30 million more telephone lines in the Middle East" and this would require \$112 billion in financing, be added.

Among the panelists there was also a consensus on the need for regional cooperation and strategic partnerships, as well as the necessity for training in felecommunications. -

"There is a need for more trained people . . . there must be investment in people . . . there is a booming generation of youth who are waiting to be used," said Olivetti's Senior Vice-President Bruno Lamborghini from Italy.

Mr. Lamborghini added

that the countries of the As a first step towards region needed to "open their borders" to benefit from each others' telecommunication systems and advancements, and to improve "links between the waiting Middle East and Europe." The vice president and

general manager of strategic markets for Ericsson Telecom, Goran Rasmusson, reiterated the call to promote regional and international cooperation and said that time should be spent on the "harmonisation of telecommunication standards" regionally and internationally, particularly with Europe given its geographical proximity.

Out of Jordan's 27 official projects proposed during this week's summit, four were dedicated to telecommunications

The projects included frequency management and ng, a national informatics infrastructure, digital telecommunication infrastructure and project opportunities for the private

modernising and liberalising the Kingdom's telecommunications sector, the government approved a new Telecommunications Law which is currently parliamentary endorsement.

The law will provide a framework for regulated competition and calls for the establishment of an independent telecommunications regulatory office.

The regulatory office will manage the radio frequency spectrum so as to promote the delivery of quality telecommunications services while maximising the return from this valuable but limited resource.

During the economic forum two telecommunication agreements were signed between Jordan and international corporations.

Announced on Sunday was a sealing of a joint venture between ASAS Trading and Investment and Sprint, a major U.S. telecommunications

that will provide Internet access to Jordan.

International (USA) President Chris Rooney said during Tuesday's workshop that his company had already hired a first group of engineers for the project implementa-

Tuesday saw the signing of a JD 25 million deal between the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) and Siemens, a major German electronics manufac-

Siemens will supply, install and commission local line plant networks, with a capacity of 300,000 subscriber lines. The project, which has been financed by a loan from the European Investment Bank, is scheduled for completion

Within the next three years, the TCC therefore bopes to have increased the penetration of telephone services to about 13 per

## British Institute looks for clues to ancient life in Wadi Faynan

By Lola Keilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A Byzantine cemetery recently excavated in southern Jordan could contain some of the most significant clues to ancient life in the region despite the delapidated state of some of the tombs there, according to the British Institute for Archaeology and History (BLAAH) which was

established in 1978. More than half of the 1,200 graves excavated so far have been pilfered. The cemetery, which is part of the archaeological site in Wadi Faynan, was known to exist in the 19th century

but excavations started only in March 1994 by the BIAAH.

Wadi Faynan, located in the north of Petra, was considered the industrial heartland of Jordan due to copper-mining and processing carried out there as early as

The wadi entombs the remains of earlier settlements, dating as far back as the Neolithic to the mediaeval period.

"The excavation projects are currently being carried out by the BIAAH, in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities and the Yarmouk University," said Alison McQuitty, director

Some of the headstones in the cemetry have crosses engraved on them, and one was found with an engraving of a Nabatean god. The one grave that

archaeologists have chosen to uncover contained the skeleton of an adult male who had been buried with his leather shoes and wrapped in a shroud, but no 'grave goods" were found. The site contains the largest collection of Byzantine skeletons in Jordan.

The first phase of the project was completed in Aug.1994, and two more phases should be carried out: the planning of the

south cemetery and Khirbat Faynan.

Ms. McQuitty also said that the financial support for Wadi Fynan was given by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of Great Britain, but the Byzantine cemetery excavation project is financed by the British embassy.

"The bulk of our financing is coming from private individuals, so we aim to increase excavation awareness through fund-raising," Ms. McQuitty, who has been in Jordan since 1981, told the Jordan Times.

Plans for further excavation of the Byzantine cemetery is considered to be

important extremely because 700 gravestones have been stolen, and grave robbing is still continuing.

"A number of special surveys, environmental, ecological and archaeological should also be part of the study in advance of further development," McQuitty said.

Khirbat Faynan, the main settlement site with the collapsed remains of dense Roman-Byzantine buildings, needs an immediate and surface survey for pottery and artefacts, especially since the ancient field is still in use today.

## **FUND-RAISING FOR EXCAVATION**

Fund-raising event to finance the excavation project in Wadi Faynan, organised by the British Institute at Amman for Archaeology and History, at the British Embassy Club on Friday (noon - 4:00 pm) (Tel. 841317)

## **SEMINAR**

"The Aftermath of Women's Beijing Conference fordanian Impressions" (in Arabic) with the participation of Kheiri Mansour, Asma Khader and Nawal Fa'uri at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman on Thursday at 6.00pm.

## FILM

The Mosquito Coast," at the American Center on Thursday at 5:00 p.m.

"Kika" at the Instituto Cervantes, Jabal Amman on

Thursday at 5.00pm

\*Legacy of the Mamluks" (with commentary in Arabic by Dr. Khalid Khreis) at Darat Al Funun, on Thursday at 5.30pm.

## BANI HAMIDA FALL EXHIBITION

\* The Bani Hamida Women's Weaving Project presents "Winds of Change" its fall exhibition at the Jerusalem Insurance Company in Shmeisani (Tel.

### **EXHIBITIONS**

\* Metal works by Ammar Khammash at Liwan, off Wadi Saqra Street. Also displaying all kinds of handicrafts. (Tel 699141)

\* Paintings by Salam Kanaan and ceramics by Najwa Annab and Margaret Tadros at Alia Art



Under The Patronage of HRH Princess Sumaya El Hassan

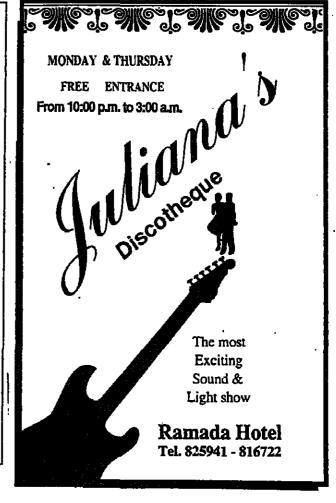
The Wadi Faynan Ghouls & Ghosts Gig At the British Embassy Club Friday 3rd November 1995, 12-4pm.

Free raffle (Airline ticket), fun games, good food Ticket at gate: 3JD Free entry for children under 12 years Contact Tel: 841317



Sponsored by





COLOMBO (Agencies) — Sri Lanka's army fears rebel ambushes and possible chemical weapon attacks as it stands poised to seize the northern Tamil Tiger guer-rilla stronghold of Jaffna military sources said Wednesday.

Aid workers say the army could move into Jaffna City possibly "within hours" if it wanted to after a mass exodus of more than 100,000 rebels and civilians left it a virtual ghost town.

They may have tried to depopulate Jaffna so that they can use chemical weapons when our troops move in," a senior military officer told Reuters.

The rebels used chlorine gas to attack troops in 1990 during a failed attempt to overrun an army camp, but caused no harm. The officer said the army was taking the chemical weapon threat seriously and had distributed gas masks to some of

Although soldiers were close to the outskirts of the battered city their advance would be slowed by minefields, booby-traps and ambushes laid by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), he said.

"We should be able to move in quickly if there is no resistance," he said. "But we're obviously going to be careful of walking into a

A senior Western relief worker in touch with colleagues in Jaffna told Reuters the town looked almost empty with the army just north of the city.

BAKU (R) - Another fire

the underground railway

network in Azerbaijan's

capital Baku, three days

A Russian newspaper said

The incident came as

Azeri and Russian investi-

gators hunted for clues to

the world's worst under-

ground rail disaster amid

Transcaucasian state that

the deaths may have been

caused by sabotage.
Russia's Interfax News

Agency quoted deputy Prime Minister Abbas

Abbasov as telling a gov-

ernment commission that a

train engine caught fire at

the Kara Karayev Station

He said it was promptly

put out by station workers. No one was hurt.

TOKYO (R) — Japan and the United States agreed

Wednesday not to cut the

number of U.S. troops sta-

tioned in Japan but to con-

sider redeploying some of them away from Okinawa,

U.S. Defence Secretary

In another effort to smooth

security ties between the two allies, Mr. Perry also

publicly apologised for the

alleged involvement of

three U.S. servicemen in

the rape of a schoolgirl on

the southern Japanese

island, the incident that set

After meeting Japan's

Defence Minister Seishiro

Eto and Foreign Minister

Yohei Kono, Mr. Perry

announced that a joint spe-

cial committee would be

set up to study the possibil-

ity of reducing the 26,000

U.S. treops on Okinawa by

shifting some of them to

Mr. Perry said in a speech

to reporters that the U.S.-

Japan alliance was strong

despite demands in

other from of Japan.

off the current crisis.

William Perry said.

in this

passengers fled to safety

from toxic fumes.

speculation

was reported Tuesday on tunnel in central Baku,

after 300 people died in a fire started under their train.

explosion,

Azerbaijan

ing Tuesday.

"It could be in Jaffna City within hours today," he said. "The LTTE has left

Jaffna City. Apparently Oct. 17 is the army's biggest they're not ready to fight in Jaffna. This is good for the people, but it has triggered an excdus of civilians and we're trying to ensure their

He said only those who could not move remained at the Jaffna Hospital which army sources said they want to capture to block its use by the rebels. In the eastern Batticaloa

district, the rebels killed eight police commandos in an ambush Wednesday morning, the military said. An army statement said five soldiers and 10 rebels

died in Tuesday's fighting for two road junctions on the way to Jaffna. Air force ground attack aircraft bombed the rebels in the Urumpirai and Kopay areas, At least 35 rebels and

eight soldiers were killed Monday night when troops beat off rebel attempts to infiltrate army defences, it said. The bodies of 20 rebels, including eight shattered by shelling, were found during a later search.

Rebel resistance to the army's two-pronged advance crumbled Monday after troops captured Neerveli, 10 kilometres northeast of Jaffna, where the rebels had an underground hospital and bunker complex and their air wing headquarters.

Three army divisions of more than 21,000 men backed by tanks, artillery and aircraft have pushed south from their Palaly Air Base and now stand less than 5-1/2 kilometres of the city centre.

The offensive launched on

where Saturday's victims

were crushed, electrocuted

or burned to death after a

blaze there, but this time no- seemed to point away from Komsomolskaya Pravda

Investigators said late

Monday that the bodies did

not show evidence of an

Haydar Aliyev said sabo-

tage could not be ruled out.

Abbasov told Interfax that

underground workers were

trying to avoid being

"If there was an explo-

sion, the dead would have

had corresponding wounds

which were not discovered

during investigations," Mr.

Abbasov was quoted as say-

country is facing a parlia-

mentary election on Nov.

12, noted there had been

year-old girl on Sept. 4.

The three servicemen go

Mr. Perry defended the

U.S. response to Okinawan

anger, saying: "We have

responded quickly, effec-

tively and with compas-

"On behalf of all mem-

bers of the armed forces, I

want to express my deep

sorrow and anger for this

terrible act," he said in

measured tones. "I also

want to apologise for the

pain and concern this has

Mr. Perry said he felt sad-

ness for the girl and her

family, and "anger at the

perpetrators whose actions

not only caused a tragedy

for the victims, but also

unfairly reflected on the

many fine military person-

Officials have raced to

settle the troop controversy

ahead of a summit meeting

in Tokyo on Nov. 20

nel in Japan".

Okinawa for troop cuts between President Bill

caused the Japanese peo-

on trial for the rape in a

Japanese court on Nov. 7.

But Mr. Aliyev, whose

blamed for the disaster.

Security Minister Namig

although

President

Another blaze reported on disaster-hit Azeri metro

First findings from the two bomb attacks on the

against the Tigers, fighting for an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the north and east of the island nation. More than 50,000 people have died in

the 12-year war. At least 751 rebels have been killed and more than 2,000 wounded in the offensive. The army has lost 192 men and had more than 700 wounded.

K. Ponnambalam, the top government administrator in Jaffna, told Reuters he had urged the government to declare Tenmaradchi, the southeastern quarter of the peninsula where 65 per cent of Jaffna's population have taken refuge, a safety zone. He said he had asked the government to request aid agencies for immediate shipments of tents, roofing material, food and disinfectant like chlorine required to

ease spreading fast among Indian troops on alert

fight diarrhoea and eye dis-

Meanwhile police in India's southern state of Tamil Nadu have been placed on alert for a possible infiltration of Tamil rebels fleeing an advancing army in Sri Lanka, senior intelligence officers said Wednesday.

"We are keeping a watch at the airport, ports and carrying out random checks at railway stations for any possible infiltration," a senior intelligence officer told Reuters.

The officer, who asked not to be named, said security for Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalitha had also been intensified.

underground in the last 18

months, a fact which has

fuelled the sabotage theory.

Deputy Premier Abbasov

was quoted in Russia's

the main cause of the disas-

ter was "the ageing metro

system which was inherited

Interfax quoted him as

saying that fire — this time

without casualties - hit

another Baku underground

The popular Moscow newspaper Moskovsky

Komsomolets reported that

toxic fumes spread when

the Baku train caught fire,

leaving passengers only

The disaster should serve

authorities in

as a "serious warning" to

Moscow and other cities

using similar Soviet-era

It said the driver made a

minutes to escape.

systems, it said. .

Tomiichi Murayama.

Mr. Perry said that in his

meetings with Mr. Eto and

Mr. Kono the two sides agreed the United States

should keep the current

level of 47,000 troops in

Japan even if some of them

were shifted away from the

United States' main bases

on Okinawa, 1,600 kilome-

importance of the security

alliance between Japan and

the United States," he said.

was vital to supporting that

alliance with the United

States to maintain a for-

ward-deployed military

presence of 100,000 troops

in the Asia-Pacific region

Perry

Washington was willing to

reduce the 26,000 troops on

Okinawa if that was what

About 70 per cent of U.S.

bases in Japan are on

Okinawa, where they take

up about 20 per cent of the

and 47,000 in Japan.

Japan wanted

"We also agreed that it

"We agreed on the vital

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Tokyo, U.S. agree not to

cut U.S. troops in Japan

over the rape of the 12- Clinton and Prime Minister

from the Soviet era".

train Tuesday.

get of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) since she ordered police in Tamil Nadu in 1991 to crack down on rebels taking refuge in the state.

"In general there is a secu-rity alert here because of the situation in Jaffna," he said. The Indian official dismissed a newspaper report which said LTTE leader Velupillai Prabhakaran had

sneaked into Tamil Nadu to elude capture by the Sri Lankan government. "That is nonsense. As of now, Prabhakaran is not here," be

The official said heavy patrolling of Indian and Sri Lankan navies along the Palk Strait that separates northern Sri Lanka from southern India would make it difficult for Tigers to sneak into India.

"But anything is possible. Maybe some of their cadres may try to enter India not from southern coast waters but from the east coast, say from Calcutta," he said.

Indian support for the Tigers, which was considerable at one time, has been waning in recent years. The LTTE is suspected to

have assassinated former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991, after Mr. Gandhi sent Indians troops to northern Sri Lanka in 1987 to help Colombo in trying to disarm the Tigers.

But many Indian Tamils sympathise with Sri Lankan Tamil separatists and some local politicians bave appealed for a halt to civilian killings that the Sri Lankan army is alleged to have carried out in the current fighting.

fatal error by stopping in the

tunnel instead of going on

to the next station - a

move which spared loss of

life when a train caught fire

The independent newspa-

per Izvestiya sounded

another warning for the citi-

zens of the Russian capital,

reporting that trains were

stopped for 16 minutes in

Moscow late Monday after

oil which had leaked onto a

Azeri Health Minister Ali

Insanov said at the weekend

289 people were killed in

the Baku fire and 269 were

hurt, but hospital officials

said 337 had died and 270

On Tuesday life in Baku, a

city of two million people,

was more or less back to

normal although under-

ground services had been

Masahide Ota has vowed

not to sign new land-lease

contracts required to main-

tain U.S. bases on the

island unless the U.S. pres-

Before the row, Japan and

the United States were

already looking at ways to

consolidate the number of

bases in the country so they

occupied less land. Mr.

Perry said this process

would be speeded up and

completed by the end of the

He said details of the spe-

cial joint committee would

be announced by Mr.

Murayama and Mr. Clinton

Mr. Perry said most

Japanese recognised the

rape case was an "aberra-

tion" and that most U.S.

troops were "good neigh-

"I assure you that every

American serviceman and

woman in Japan has

pledged to regain this repu-

tation and to regain your

respect," he said.

during their summit.

ence there is reduced.

track caught fire.

were injured.

in Moscow in 1987.



Former South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo looks down as he walks past photographers into the prosecutor's office in Seoul for questioning on the \$650 million shish fund he has admitted amassing while in office from 1987 to 1993 (AFP photo)

## S.Korea's Roh grilled on slush funds

SEOUL (R) — With head bowed and whispering "I'm sorry", South Korea's distinction. Mr. Roh was not graced ex-President Roh Tae-Woo presented himself before prosecutors Wednes-day to be grilled over a \$654 million slush fund he amassed in office.

Mr. Rob is the first past or present South Korean head of state to face questioning by prosecutors, the opening step in possible criminal

proceedings.
"Today is the saddest day in our constitutional history," said Park Ji-Won, a spokesman for the main opposition National Congress for New Politics.

Live television showed a sombre-faced Roh dressed in a black suit pushing open the revolving doors of the prosecutor general's office, his eyes lowered and hands clenched tightly.

"I'm sorry," the retired four-star general said in a low voice after brushing past several hundred

Prosecutors interrogated Mr. Roh about the \$654 million he confessed to extracting from business groups while president from 1988-93. They want to know exactly who gave him the money, who helped him hide it and where the cash

still has \$242 million, but cution office to deal with

him at his word.

expected to emerge from the session until late at "I told prosecutors to ask whether his relatives were

involved in amassing the funds or whether he transferred some of the money overseas," Mr. Ahn said. Foreign Minister Gong

Ro-Myung said Switzerland may be approached for help in tracking down Mr. Roh's money, some of which is reported to be stashed in Swiss bank accounts, News Agency Yonhap reported.
"If and when judicial

authorities ask for it, we will request Swiss cooperation through diplomatic channels," Yonhap quoted Mr. Gong as telling a parliamentary session.

Mr. Ahn said that after finishing with Mr. Roh they will begin questioning leaders of the country's sprawling business groups, known as "chaebol".

Television helicopters buzzed overhead as Mr. Roh left his walled home in an exclusive Seoul suburb in a black limousine, part of a four-car motorcade carrying his aides. Some 3,000 police were

stationed outside Mr.Roh's Mr. Roh has declared he home and around the prose-

"The questioning is going Mr. Roh, a decorated from Mr. smoothly," said Prosecutor Vietnam War veteran, campaign.

became a popular hero in 1987 when he announced on television he was rejecting a rubber-stamp nomination to replace then President Chun Doo-Hwan and would instead run for office in the first democrat-

ic elections for head of But his term was blighted by labour unrest, economic instability and constant street protests. He is now reviled by ordinary Koreans and abandoned by the ruling Democratic Liberal Party

(DLP) he once headed. Current President Kim Young-Sam, who ran successfully as the DLP candidate in 1992 elections, has accused him of illegally raising funds.

Political analysts say they expect Mr. Roh will be put on trial. Public pressure is mounting for the courts to make an example of him. and with general elections due next April, Mr. Kim must be seen to take a hard

Opposition parties are demanding Mr. Roh's arrest and a confession from Mr. Kim that he took money from the ex-president to finance his presidential campaign.

Mr. Kim has denied any involvement in Mr. Roh's slush money, although he may have taken money from Mr. Roh during the

### Actress accepts libel damages

LONDON American -Stephanie Powers accepted undisclosed libel damages and a public apology in the English High Court over allegations that she had sexually harassed a former employee. Powers, 52, was not in court to bear the judgment against Britain's Daily Mail newspaper. The newspaper reported allega-tions made in California by her former assistant that Powers had sexually harassed him and had committed adultery. It was also alleged that she was an alcoholic. The lawyer for the Daily Mail said the newspaper accepted that Powers was wholly innocent of the allegations and regretted circulating them.

#### William among top 10 heartthrobs

LONDON (AFP) — Prince William is among Britain's top 10 heartthrobs for teens, despite — or perhaps because of — his appearance at a recent party that earned him a place on the front page of the Sun. A poll by the teenage magazine Smash Hits listed Prince William, second in line for the British throne, as sixth among Britain's top 20 "beart-breakers." The 13-year-old prince trails take that singer Mark Owen and Manchester United footballer Ryan Giggs, but comes before actor Johnny Depp and Oasis singer Liam Gallagher in the teen idol sweepstakes.

### Singer James Brown arrested

WASHINGTON (AFP) -

Soul singer James Brown was arrested Tuesday in South Carolina and charged with "criminal domestic violence" after his wife Adrience sistained injuries forcing ber to be hospitalised, police, said. Brown, 67, was released pending a court appearance, authorities said. He was previous jailed in 1988 and 1991 on assault and weapons charges. Adrienne Brown was previously hospitalised in May for what a local newspaper said was a drug overdose. She previously filed domestic violence complaints against her husband, but later dropped them and refused

### Whoopi Goldberg to host Academy Awards

to testify against him.

WASHINGTON (AFP) -Actress Whoopi Goldberg will host next year's Academy Awards. "I'm back and I'm thrilled, honey," Goldberg said Tuesday. She had hosted the Oscars once before in 1994. Quincy Jones, who runs the Oscar broadcasts picked Goldberg to be master of ceremonies after the last host, talk show host David Letterman, got mixed reviews and was not offered a repeat invitation. Nominations for the Oscars will be announced Feb. 13, with the awards show scheduled for March 25.

### **Hot-footed Beijing** police seize fake sneakers

BELING (R) - Police in the Chinese capital have won a victory in the race against footwear bootleggers, seizing a batch of fake Reebok sneakers. Beijing media reported. Pirated copies of the running shoe as well as Nike, Adidas, Puma, Asics and other top international brands have flooded Beijing and many other cities, selling for 100 yuan (\$12), against a retail price of 500 yuan (\$61) or more, In the Beijing case, police tipped off by a consumer raided a private businessman's warehouse and seized more than 600 pairs of fake Reeboks worth several thousand U.S. dollars. the report said.

#### Gunmen, police kill 14 in Karachi KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) over the past several International months. Elsewhere in Karachi. unidentified guamen killed

- Police shot and killed three suspected militant activists Wednesday in the southern Pakistani city of Karachi, where at least 11 other people were murdered in random shootings.

Police in central Karachi cornered three men armed with AK-47 assault rifles, an official police spokesman said, adding the men were killed in a shootout with several offi-

The men were allegedly militant members of the opposition Mobajir Qaumi Movement, which has been leading a violent campaign against the government in

Karachi. A spokesman for the Mohajir group said he was unsure whether the men were associated with the

MQM.
"We are investigating the

Ajmal Dehlvi said. Police have killed 52 MOM activists in street encounters or in custody

killings," MQM spokesman

dom shootings. The overnight killings Tuesday and Wednesday were just the latest in

Karachi's ongoing ethnic war, which has claimed more than 1,600 lives so far this year. The bruised and beaten

body of one of the victims, Kushir Mohammad, 35, was found abandoned in an alley in central Karachi, police said. A single bullet to the head

claimed his life, the police spokesman said. Two other men killed

were migrant workers from central Pakistan's Panjab province, raising concerns they were targeted as ethnic opponents to a militant faction from the Mohajir Qaumi Movement. The MQM have been

blamed for much of the escalating violence that has wracked Karachi.

rights groups, however, accuse both the MQM and police officers of targeting 11 people in a string of rancivilians in their ongoing urban guerrilla war.

> The latest violence came after a two-day strike which brought much of Karachi to a standstill. The MQM frequently call for protest strikes as part of their campaign against the government The MQM, which repre-

> sents Indian Muslims who came to Pakistan when the country was founded in 1947, is the largest political force in the country's southem Sind province and its capital Karachi.

> Mohajirs say they have faced widespread discrimination since coming to Pakistan, and claim they are often denied access to good jobs and entrance to better

> Many MQM activists have turned to more and more violent methods of pressing their demands for equal rights.

## Taiwan building fire kills 11

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) -Fire engulfed a 14-story building and hotel in southern Taiwan Tuesday, killing I'l people and injuring eight, police said.

Five people were killed jumping from 10th-story balconies to escape the fire, while the others died of smoke inhalation, police

Police corrected the death toll from 12 to 11, saying one body was counted twice. They said 20 other people were rescued from the top floor.

Three people were seriously injured, including a actor Lin Fu-hsiung was man who jumped from a treated in an intensive care

10th-story room to a lower unit for smoke inhalation, annex and broke his spine, police said. police said.

The fire broke out at about 2:30 a.m. (1830 GMT Monday) in the complex in Chiayi, 300 kilometres south of Taipei. which houses a department store, movie theatre, restaurant and a hotel in the top four stories, police

Among the botel guests was a 20-member team making a new TV soap opera called A Fool Gets Lucky. Director Tseng Shu-Chu and two workers were killed in the fire, and police said. It took 100 firefighters

four hours to put out the fire because the building had few windows, firefighter Lin Lou-Yeh said. Mr. Lin said the fire may have started in a secondfloor machine shop undergoing renovation, but the cause was still being investigated.

Taiwan has tightened fire safety inspections since a nightclub fire in February killed 64 people. But police said the Chiavi building was not found to be in violation of safety regulations in its last

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BELFAST (R) — Emizon and Sinna Fern. the IF 4. polinical wing, rathed to resolve a vest-ojd deddlock in Northern Treland". prace process to tatement e और but agreed to meet same by and overcome dificulties". Degrate a 15-month-

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We have arranged a sing for Friday. Sensity, the impasse seen broken. Anctam said later it been a constructive skey issues. made it very clear what the British

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after ceasefires by Buenilla groups creyears the IRA drive British from the province.

where the IRA drew loes believed truces give them a politi-

## apartheid remnants

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africans voted away the final remnants of official apartheid Wednesday in the country's first all-race local government elections. "Last vote to freedom." the mass-circulation Johanpesburg Star proclaimed in a banner headline.

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President Mandela, the country's first black leader, said the elections for 688 local authorities appeared to be going well. "...I think they are proceeding very smoothly," he told reporters outside Johannesburg City Hall.

Some blacks performed a traditional freedom dance, but the local polls lacked the high drama and tension that surrounded the 1994 national and provincial elections that gave the country black majority rule after centuries of white domination.

The country's normallybustling commercial heartland was almost -deserted except for a line several hundred metres long of blacks waiting to cast their ballots at a polling station in the city hall.

Financial markets were closed after the government proclaimed a public holi-

A row over the planned arrest Thursday of apartheid-era generals, including former Defence Minister Magnus Malan, in connection with a massacre of 13 blacks eight years ago broke days before the polis. Although opponents ac-used Mr. Mandela's

African National Congress (ANC) of politicking in announcing the arrests ahead of time, the president said he did not think the furore had overshadowed the elections.

"Oh, no I don't think so. The number of people who are here show that the overshadowed," he said in reply to a question.

Right-wing Front leader Constand Viljoen planned to seek a judgement from the Supreme Court in Pietermaritzburg Wednesday to prevent the arrests of Gen. Malan and 10 other former senior officers under a clause in the country's provisional constitution.

"We want to entrench the culture of respect for law and order and for our judiciary. If the court decides in his favour, then we would hold ourselves bound by that," Mr. Mandela said at the city hall.

Few problems were reported after polls opened at 7 a.m. Voters in black townships and traditionally white areas formed queues from early in the morning.

About 13 million people were on the rolls to vote, but about four million of these were in Kwazulu-Natal province and other areas where the elections have been postponed due mainly to demarcation dis-

Residents in three battlescarred townships east on Johannesburg's eastern boundary said they hoped newly-elected local councillors would at last begin rebuilding settlements destroyed by past political violence.

"This is the most important vote in my life. It is a vote for my local councillor who will have to look into my immediate needs," said Joel Mkhwanazi, who said he had lived in Kathlehong township for more than 45

In conservative areas in the north of the country, some whites said they were voting to demonstrate support for the concept of autonomy for Afrikaners.

"We need our own state where we can govern our selves," said a supporter of the white separatist Conservative Party.

## S. Africans vote away | Quebec premier quits, Chretien promises reforms

MONTREAL (R) — The narrow defeat of an independence bid in Ouebec has sent shockwaves through Canada, bringing down the province's premier and prompting a promise of rapid reforms by Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

A resignation announcement Tuesday by Quebec's separatist premier, Jacques Parizeau, came less than 24 hours after he fell breathtakingly short of achieving his dream of creating a Frenchspeaking country in North America.

"I announce today that at the end of the fall (autumn) parliamentary session I will leave the post of premier ..." Mr. Parizeau told a news conference in the provincial capital of Quebec City.

He said he had decided long ago to resign if he was defeated in the referendum and the decision was unrelated to a storm of criticism Tuesday after be blamed the referendum loss on Quebec minority ethnic groups.

Mr. Parizeau's move sparked speculation that he will be succeeded by the

charismatic Lucien Bouchard, who almost singlehandedly led the separatists to victory after assuming the leadership of a flagging campaign.

Mr. Bouchard, head of the Bloc Quebecois party, is leader of the official opposition in Canada's parliament. Separatists came within 53,000 votes, out of 4.7 million cast, of winning their

dence in 15 years. Official preliminary results issued by Quebec's electoral office Tuesday showed 50.56 per cent against separation with 49.44 per cent in favour.

second bid for indepen-

The number of spoiled ballots was 1.82 per cent larger than the margin of victory. Turnout in the emotional vote was a huge 93 per cent, far outstripping the previous record. The rest of Canada gasped

in relief after averting the crackup of the 128-year-old federation. But the close result

increased the urgency among Canadians Quebec's longaddress

standing demand for protection of its "distinct society." "Is it a wake-up call? I'm hoping so... It might be our last mutual chance," said

John Crispo, a political scientist at the University of Toronto. Referring to English Canadians, he told Reuters: "Did they learn a lesson? I think they did." A chastened Canadian

Prime Minister Jean Chretien, whose political credibility was tarnished by the slim unity victory, said he would move quickly to try to satisfy Quebec aspira-

He told parliament in Ottawa that he will proceed with changes to the constitution he promised before the referendum. These would respond to Quebec's complaint that its French culture and language have not been accorded proper protection, and give the province a veto over future constitutional changes.

There were signs, however, of a tough fight ahead for constitutional change. Canada's right-leaning Commons Tuesday. Reform Party, the third Investors cheered the ref-

Ouebec premier and leader of the secessionists Jacques Parizeau announces his resignation to the press with his wife Lissette at his side in Quebec City (AFP photo)

largest in parliament, reject- erendum results, pouring ever. The Bank of Canada's ed calls for distinct status money back into Canadian Bellwether Bank rate fell for Quebec.

Special status for Quebec it's a non-starter," Reform leader Preston Manning told the House of

dent Boris Yeltsin has de-

The presidential press ser-

vice issued a statement say-

ing Mr. Yeltsin, who is hos-

trouble, asked the commis-

elections.

were banned.

Grigory Yavlinsky.

Mr.

stocks, bonds and currency, which had been battered in recent weeks by uncertainty about the referendum out-

The Toronto Stock Market staged its third highest rally by 0.25 per cent to 7.75.

Lead Russian reformer says

Bellwether Bank rate fell 1.5 percentage points to 6.18 per cent Tuesday and major Canadian banks responded by lowering the prime lending rates they charge their best customers

## Yeltsin meets with top aide in hospital

his top aide Viktor Ilyushin Wednesday, his first meeting with an official since he was taken to hospital last Thursday after suffering a mild heart attack, a

spokesman said. "Everything is all right," the spokesman said by telephone. He gave no details of the hospital meeting, which ITAR-TASS news agency said lasted an hour.

TASS said the two men had discussed foreign and domestic policy and the mechanism of contacts between the head of state and his aides during his stay in hospital".

MOSCOW (R) -- Russian TASS that the meeting Kremlin aides and doctors President Boris Yeltsin met showed the president "had begun active work". Mr. Ilyushin, a trusted Yeltsin aide, was the first

Kremlin official allowed by the doctors to visit the 64year-old Russian leader in the Central Clinical Hospital. Until Wednesday only family members and security staff had visited

footage of Mr. Yeltsin have been shown since he suffered his second mild heart attack in less than four months.

He will spend five weeks recuperating and will be confined to bed until the end of this week.

have issued a series of bulletins in the past two days to calm fears that they might be hiding details of his condition.

Mr. Yeltsin himself signalled he was on the road to recovery Tuesday by issuing his first official order since he was taken to hospi-

He demanded an explanation from the head of the Central Electoral Commission of why he had barred several parties or blocs, including the leading reform group Yabloko, from parliamentary Russia's election on Dec. 17.

### A Kremlin source told Chechen premier: Elections not possible now

Tuesday it is impossible to hold elections in the rebel republic until its economy is restored.

The statement by Mr. Zavgayev, appointed earlier this month, reflected his wish to hold on the seat despite Moscow's promises to conduct elections early next year as part of an overall peace settlement.

"It is immoral to have elections while many people are living in the base-

GROZNY, Russia (AP) - ments of ruined houses, talks, which have been The prime minister of without electricity and heat-Chechenya's Moscow- ing," Mr. Zavgayev said, installed government said according to the Interfax News Agency. Elections cannot be held

"until the republic's economy is restored," he insisted. 54-year-old Zavgayev succeeded Salambek Khadzhiyev, who resigned to take up a new post in Moscow.

Mr. Khadzhiyev had grown increasingly outspoken against the rebels since appointment · by Moscow earlier this year.

bogged down for months. Mr. Zavgayev was speaker of the Chechen legislature until it was dissolved rebel President Dzhokhar Dudayev in April 1993. Mr. Zavgayev has insisted that the former parliament be represented in

Monday. One Russian ser-

viceman was reported killed

Yavlinsky Tuesday the Election Commission broke the law Sunday when, in a ruling 'that threw Russian the talks. politics into an uproar, it Meanwhile, rebel attacks disqualified his liberal on Russian forces contin-Yabloko Party from the ued. The military command Dec. 17 ballot for procedurreported 18 such attacks

al violations. He said the party was working on an appeal, and

Central

MOSCOW (AP) - Presi- he expected the Supreme have vowed to boycott the Court to take it up by the end of the week.

his party may be reinstated

manded an explanation from the Central Election "I expect a positive reso-Commission for a series of lution but I am prepared for controversial rulings bara negative resolution as well," Mr. Yavlinsky told a ring several parties from the December parliamentary small gathering of business peopie.

A day after saying he would consider a union with another leading liberal pitalised for the second time party, Russia's Democratic Choice, if left off the ballot, in four months with heart Mr. Yavlinsky met with that party's leader, Yegor sion chairman, Nikolai Ryabov, why the parties Gaidar.

But he declined to discuss "The president expects to the meeting and appeared to receive answers as soon as downplay the possibility of possible," the press service such a merger, which could significantly strengthen The commission's most

reformers' chances in an hotly disputed ruling was ction in which Commu-

against the party headed by susts and nationalists are "I know of only one party that was united - it was

> Lenin's party," he said. Mr. Yavlinsky said that if his party can't participate in the Duma elections he will immediately begin his campaign for June's presidential elections. He is consistently rated among the top two or three most popular politi-

> cians in Russia. Some leading democrats

elections if the Electoral Commission's decision is not overturned.

The decision was based on a technicality concerning the party's list of candidates. Another prominent move-

ment that also was barred for procedural reasons, the great power bloc led by prominent hardliner Alexander Rutskoi, also said it was preparing a Supreme Court appeal.

Mr. Gaidar's faction said it was gathering legislators' signatures to call an emergency session of the State Duma, or lower house, Saturday to amend the electoral law and restore Yabloko's eligilibity.

Parliament Speaker Ivan in the West that Yabloko's disqualification would produce more of a Communistnationalist tilt in the next Duma, told the U.S. ambassador Tuesday that Mr. Yavlinsky's bloc is sure to be registered in the end.

The problem faced by Mr. Yavlinsky's bloc "is not worth a rap," Mr. Rybkin told Ambassador Thomas Pickering.

## U.K., Sinn Fein fail to bridge peace chasm

BELFAST (R) — Britain on the future of the region. and Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, failed to resolve a year-old deadlock in Northern Ireland's peace process in intensive talks but agreed to meet again to try and overcome

"difficulties". Despite a 15-monthlong ceasefire by the Irish Republican Army (IRA), London says it will not invite Sinn Fein to allparty talks until the Republican guerrillas

hand in their weapons. "We have had a detailed discussion. There are major difficulties," Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein's chief negotiator, told reporters after more than three hours of talks with a Minister for British Northern Ireland, Michael

"We have arranged a meeting for Friday. Regrettably, the impasse in the peace process has not been broken.

Mr. Ancram said later it had been a constructive meeting but confirmed that a gap remained on some key issues.

"I made it very clear today what the British government's position was," Mr. Ancram told

reporters.

We made progress on certain issues, and there are other issues -- difficult issues — which still need to be addressed."

The talks, the latest in a series of face-to-face contacts, took place in an atmosphere of deep concern about the slow pace of political momentum a year after ceasefires by rival guerrilla groups created a shaky calm.

have floode and many oth For 25 years the IRA against a retail pric fought to drive British forces from the province. Protestant guerrillas shot areas, where the IRA drew

warehouse pair.
more than out sev.
Reeboks worth sev.
ous and U.S. dollar. support. The foes believed truces would give them a political voice in all-party talks

The IRA says Britain's "arms-for-talks" proviso is a ploy to lure them into surrender, while Protestant gunmen say their

guns are for defence only. Sinn Fein, with ten per cent electoral support in Catholic areas, accuses Britain of strangling the peace process by thwarting its democratic man-

Mr. McGuinness said he went into the talks seeking "substantive engagement" with the British on proposals by his party and the moderate nationalist Social Democratic and Labour Party for bridging the impasse and salvaging the peace process.

"The aim of the propositions is to move us to all party talks .... and to settle the arms issue to the satisfaction of all," he said before Tuesday's meeting. Mr. Ancram said Anglo-

Irish plans for a "twin track" precursor to roundtable talks, involving new bilateral talks with Sinn Fein and the setting-up of an independent panel to advise on the disposal of weapons, were discussed.

Britain says the arms panel might provide a way around the the "arms before talks" stalemate.

But Britain and Ireland, partners in promoting peace in Northern Ireland, have not been able to launch their plans because of Sinn Fein opposition to elements including the panel, which it fears could be "a collection agency"

for IRA arms. U.S. President Clinton, due on a peaceboosting trip to Northern Ireland on Nov. 30, had been expected to give the two pronged policy initiative his imprimatur, but Anglo-Irish officials are unsure if it will be launched by that date.

#### Tuesday morning in an ambush on the outskirts of Rebel negotiators accused him of hindering peace Grozny, the capital. Independence movement slams proposal

PAPEETE (AFP) — The French Polynesia's largest proindependence movement, Oscar Temaru, has slammed

an autonomy proposal by the territory's chief, Gaston Flosse, calling it a "new Speaking at a press conference in Faaa, Tahiti, the leader of the Tavini

Huiraatira Independence Party attacked Mr. Flosse's

for increased Polynesian autonomy proposal, under which the territorial assembly would have final authority on all matters except defence, justice and security, which would remain under

France's control. Under the proposal the assembly would have the final say on such issues as fishing rights, the landing rights of international airlines and other politically sensitive questions.

referred to Paris but if the proposal comes into effect, laws passed by the assembly could only be changed if they have the support of two-thirds of the congress and the assembly.

Mr. Flosse and his government have said the proposal, to be debated this month in the assembly, is "indispensable" if Polynesians want real autonomy.

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## Times of promise — and hard work

THE MIDDLE East and North Africa Economic Summit (MENA) which ended in Amman Wednesday represented a major step on the road to rehabilitating the economies of the region. That the summit was a success is something to which all participants have testified. And that it is only a matter of time before Jordan, and the area in general, start feeling the benefits of the policies and projects adopted at MENA is an assertion that both politicians and private sector representatives have exerted all effort possible to make the conference a success.

Jordan worked hard to ensure that the summit would realise the goals set for it. His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan exerted enormous efforts to ensure success for MENA. Their efforts stemmed from a repeatedly expressed conviction that the countries of the region have to work collectively and modernise their economies in order to bring about a better life for the people of the region. The Jordanian officialdom cooperated with the private sector in preparing for the summit. This cooperation paid off - and handsomely so.

The Kingdom won the recognition of the participants as a modern and well developed state with many achievements despite the limited resources and the numerous burdens it has had to shoulder over the years. It also succeeded in drawing the world's attention to the many opportunities that it can offer for international investors. The Kingdom's developed infrastructure, stable political environment and liberal economic and political policies will encourage foreign investors to consider doing business in Jordan. But making sure that these investors will eventually decide to commit their capital to the Jordanian market is something on which the Kingdom will have to work. MENA was a first step and the road is still long.

Our efforts in the future should focus on improving the investment environment. The legislative reforms that were recently introduced represented a significant start. But red tape, bureaucracy and inefficiency are still plaguing many of the country's institutions. These must be addressed. And so must efforts to stamp out corruption proceed with vigour and determination. These are times of promise for Jordan. But they are also times for hard work. This hard work must start immediately, for the realisation of the promise will first and foremost depend on Jordanians: government and people.

## **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

STATEMENTS BY Israeli leaders attending the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit in Amman proved that the Israelis are not concerned with achieving comprehensive peace, said Taher Al Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour daily. By insisting that Jerusalem is Israel's capital, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has stressed Israel's clear position with regard to the future of the city; and by claiming that Jerusalem has never been the capital of any Arab country, his foreign minister Shimon Peres has asserted that the Arabs have no right to the city, according to the writer. The Israeli delegation exploited the conference as a forum to probagate the Jewish state's political stand and project Zionism's extremism, giving the economic question a second priority, said the writer. Unlike the Europeans who offered financial assistance and used less words, the Israelis, like the Americans, talked about projects and offered no funds for their implementation, he added. For their part, the Arabs timidly whispered words about the fear of Israel's domination of the region's economics. In fact, he said, the Arabs are paving the way for the Israeli hegemony by continuing to shelve the role of the Arab League and its economic and political institu-

A WRITER in Al Ra'i daily said regional projects like the Middle East Development Bank can only succeed and help improve the quality of life for the people in the region after a comprehensive peace has been achieved. Without including Syria and Lebanon in an overall settlement, the economic projects are bound to falter and without making the projects concretely felt by the ordinary man in the street, no projects could be described as successful, said Mahmoud Rimawi. What is needed first is a political settlement catering to the legitimate rights of all parties in implementation of U.N. resolutions before regional projects can be initiated, he added. Saying that the foreign ministers of the Russian Federation and the United States have both stressed the need for a comprehensive peace in their addresses to the MENA conference, the writer said it remains to be seen how the two sponsors of the peace process can help this aspiration to come true. The people of the Middle East, he said, aspire to the improvement of their living conditions and their countries' economies, but they more importantly aspire to the achievement of a genuine and lasting peace and the restoration of their

The View from Academia

## After MENA explanation of facts

THERE IS no doubt that to a careful observer, the individual sessions of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) conference (which has just concluded its work in Amman) and the media reports and comments on the said sessions say a great deal about the shape of things to come. One is certainly better acquainted now with the specific projects and plans to be soon implemented and with the potential impact of such projects and plans on the life of the peoples of the region. Much of the ambiguity has been dispelled, and many of the misconceptions and false expectations have been put in perspective.

In this respect, as in other crucial respects (the excellent planning and organisation, the quality of services and facilities available to participants, the nature and level of debates and discussions, the thorough media coverage, etc), the conference is indeed a success. Jordan has a lot to be proud of.

Nevertheless, much explanation, discussion, debate and analysis are still in order to dispel the ambiguity and scepticism and to rectify the misconceptions and false expectations which many among us still harbour. While there is no problem for the careful observer, there is a problem still for the casual listener, viewer or reader. The average citizen, the so-called man in the street, is still immensely unclear about what is going on and what is going to happen.

The average citizens, who usually form opinions and build positions on the basis of hearsay, hold two diametrically opposed views (at times simultaneously) regarding the ultimate outcome of the said conference and regarding the shape of things to come in the peace era. Some believe MENA will herald an era of great prosperity and wealth, an era which is right around the corner. Employment opportunities (especially in the private sector, which to many among us is an El Dorado) will be ample, money will be so plentiful we will virtually swim in dinars and dollars,

and cars will be so cheap you won't believe it.

This is not surprising in the least, for the man in the street believes in simple maths and easy equations. If life in war or in no-war no-peace situations is harsh and uncomfortable, life in peace must be kind and comfortable.

Furthermore, the average citizen takes language literally; metaphors and similes do not make much sense. When he hears, as he has been hearing since Madrid 1990, that peace does not make sense unless "the life of the individual citizen is changed to the better dramatically," he will have to conclude that employment opportunities will be ample, money will be plentiful and cars will be cheap. Otherwise, how is peace a "blessing," a "great reward," a "big gain,"

By contrast, there are those citizens to whom MENA is just a show and peace is just a slogan. These people, who derive such notions and views from the pessimists, the sceptics, the cynics, the rejectionists and the nihilists among us, cling to the conviction that things will either remain as they are or get worse. In their view, the salaries will continue to be low, unemployment will remain high, taxes will increase, and the standard of living will be unsatisfactory. The logic, the rationale behind such firm

Well, most often there is no logic, and there is no rationale? In many societies, gossip and rumour have great influence on public opinion, especially in the absence or scarcity of hard facts. In a society like ours, where rumours circulate faster than fire in a field of hay, the matter is likely

to be serious. But people can also rationalise to themselves. One idea — which is false, in my opinion, or at best half-true — is that Israel is obviously (in their opinion, that is) going to reap all the benefits or most of them. Look at Egypt, they tell you: how much have the lives of ordinary Egyptians improved after the Camp David accords? There are other similar ideas and arguments.

Clearly, people who succumb or buy into this logic are either mistaken in the way they see things or victims of gossip, rumour or crooked logic. Let's remember that not long ago (even till now) many among us have inflated Israel so much that it has been turned into a giant and an incredible superman, completely blown out of proportion? Why should an Israeli be a better businessman, manager or employee than we are? Why should the hummus and falafel made in Tel Aviv be any better or tastier than those made

in Amman, if we put it in our head to make them right? Those who cite Egypt as an example to illustrate the fruitlessness of peace should ask about what Egypt has (or has not) done to improve the condition of the average Egyptian. We should not project and blame our own faults and failings on others. We may not be able to turn the Middle East are alorth Africa, after MENA, into Sweden or Switzerland (much of our land is desert) but we can definitely make the region more liveable and life more comfortable.

The Amman MENA summit is successful, as I have just said, because it presented, debated and assessed many of the facts which we had been looking for. Those who have followed closely are better informed now about what's going on than they had been a couple of weeks ago.

But what about those who have not followed closely?

We owe it to them and to ourselves to explain and publicise the facts. Our main job in the aftermath of the Amman MENA summit is to convey to these people, through the various means at our disposal, a very precise, clear and vivid sense of what the picture looks like at the moment and what it will look like in the future.

To this end, we expect from our press and media (especially Jordan Television) to make it a priority to explain to the average citizens (through extensive interviews, reports and analyses) what has been going on, what is going on, and what will go on regarding the various projects and plans. Jordan Television (which the man in the street adores) has done an excellent job covering the conference; what it needs to do now is to spread the

message more effectively and forcefully.
Citizens are like students. Some of them (a minority) get the point the minute you speak it; but for many, you need to speak it once, twice, three and four times. You need to

explain, chart, drill, etc.
What happened at the Amman MENA summit is great, but if we do not explain it carefully to Jim and Jimmy, to Bill and Billy and to Khamees and Ali, we will (without being aware of it) be contributing to even more confusion and more misconceptions.

Accolades are well

## I dial therefore I am

By Thomas L. Friedman

TEL AVIV: Let's get right to the point: Israel today is a rich country.

Its per capita income is \$16,000 a year, just below that of Britain, well ahead of Spain's. Its economy is growing at 6.8 per cent a year, in a league with Asian "Tigers" like Taiwan. Intel just announced plans to build a \$1.6 billion factory here to make flash memory chips, the biggest foreign investment ever in Israel. There are more high-tech companies from Israel on the New York Stock Exchange today, almost 70, than from any foreign country other than

But nowhere is Israel's wealth more tangible than in the number of people here naked here. I feel poor here. I seem to be the only one in Israel without a mobile phone. Israeli paratroopers now march off to the Lebanon front armed with an Uzi and a cell phone to call home. Israeli soldiers in Lebanon order pizzas from towns in northern Israel and have them delivered at the border. An Israeli friend said his sister became worried after she figured out that her son was on a mission deep inside Lebanon. How did she know? Her son hadn't telephoned from Lebanon for two days, which meant that he was beyond the range of his cell phone.
"The cell phone has re-

placed the gun as the symbol of macho and importance in Israeli society," said the Israeli political theorist Yaron Ezrahi. "In the past social status was measured by proximity to military power. Today social status is measured by proximity to econo-mic power." In the past, he adds, soldiers went to war with a gun and a Bible. Meaning I fight for the na-tion. Now they go with a gun and a phone, meaning I fight for my quality of life.

In 1985, Israel sharply curbed its budget deficit, ending its hyperinflation. This stabilised the economy just as 600,000, often highly educated, Jews came from the former Soviet Union. In a historic decision, the Israeli government decided that instead of absorbing these new immigrants the old way with government jobs and socialist programmes - they would restructure the economy and free up the private sector to provide the jobs. This coincided with peace with the Palestinians, which ended Israel's isolation and opened huge new markets for

Israel's high-tech industries in China, India and Japan,

and the country just took off.

There is building everywhere. The centre of the city of Kfar Saba used to be a beautiful orchard. Today it's a shopping mall. Israelis are digging up orange groves in Kiryat Gat to make room for the new Intel plant. It is only a matter of time before Israel becomes an importer of oranges, the national fruit. I predict that by the year 2000. Israel will have a major party called "Green Now."

As Israel has become wealthy, the inclination to fight with the Arabs has diminished, and this is driving the peace process. Israelis just have too much to lose from more war. Last week nine Israelis were killed by Lebanese gunmen. One reason the Israeli government chose not to retaliate, and risk a border war, was because it did not want to disrupt the flourishing tourist season in northern Israel. When Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 it was called "Operation Peace for Galilee." The recent muted response to the fighting in Lebanon was dubbed "Operation Peace for Hotel

The Israeli government is worried that as the ring of hostility around it falls, and Israel assimilates with its neighbours and the world, Israel's secular majority will lose its Jewish identity. While business and Asian studies classes at the Hebrew University are booming, Jewish studies enrollment has declined by 30 per cent in the last decade. Israel's Ministry of Education just asked the Hartman Institute, a modern religious education centre, to train Israelis teaching Judaism in the public schools in new ways of making Jewish values more meaningful to secular students. If survival in

a hostile sea isn't going to be the bond that ties Israelis, the leadership wants to make sure Jewish values will be. McDonald's, Tower Records, Blockbuster Video and a store called "Yuppies" all just opened on one intersection in Jerusalem. No wopder all Israeli religious parties voted against the peace process - not on security grounds but because they think it will destroy Israel's Jewish character. They do not believe that "Peace Now" and "Jewish Now" are compatible. That is the real question here.

The war with the Arabs is over. The war for Israel's identity has just begun.

The New York Times.

## Look long and hard before leaping into Bosnia

By Flora Lewis

PARIS - President Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin have agreed on the principle of Russian participation in keeping the still unmade peace in Bosnia, saying that their military advisers would work out the details. But the basic political clash is in the so-called details of command responsibility, NATO's role and the understood purpose of intervention. There is not even agreement among NATO members.

France, which finally seemed to accept a compromise a few weeks ago putting its forces under NATO command but with special liaison to the United Nations, now is tilting to support Russian ideas of parallel autonomies.

This is a critical moment. There could be reasonable confidence that the many intricate practical problems of ending conflict in the Balkans could be worked out if there were an underlying converg-ence of policies. There is not, beyond the simple wish of getting the terrible war out of the way or at least under wraps through next year's Russian and American presidential elections.

There is a temptation to seek formulas that would paper over the issues for the moment and to hope that the rapid march of events will make them easier to solve on

the ground. That is not impossible, but it is dangerous. It could lead to making current more or less theoretical disputes among the major powers points of real contention with far-reaching con-

Therefore it is necessary to ask the big questions about intentions and goals of sending a large force to Bosnia now, before the quagmire effect sets in.

If they simply can't be answered, it would be better to slow down and examine the issues than rush to the appearance of agreement through gimmicks that will only add to friction. It is not at all clear that the

U.S. Congress will support a massive number of American ground forces under any conditions that Mr. Clinton might negotiate. But it is clear that U.S. forces would be sent only under NATO that is, U.S. — command. It is equally clear that Russia will not accept NATO command, although everybody including Mr. Yeltsin agrees that it should not be left out. One idea is to divide the

operation into zones, one NATO, one Russian, one non NATO (essentially, Islamic countries) and probably one French. That is reminiscent of the postwar occupation of Germany, which hardened into 45 years of partition of both Germany and In any case, how would they work together? The suggestion is to provide "coordination." an essentially unmilitary idea in such a relatively limited area, reminiscent of the lack of united command of U.S., French and Italian forces in Beirut of U.S., French and Italian forces in Beirut in 1982. It brought disaster even though

they were NATO allies.
The U.S. Congress is seriously aggravating the issues with demands that the Americans be scheduled to pull out at the end of a year, and that meanwhile they arm and train Bosnian forces to "level the playing field" when, as many people seem to expect, the war picks up again afterward.

This had led to widely voiced suspicions that the United States is determined to back the maintenance of a Muslim state in Europe - it is also arming and training Albanians — as part of a grand Middle East strategy. That is doubtless nonsense.

It is much more likely that strategy is absent than that it is invisible because hidden. The principles insist that specifics of NATO's role in

Bosnia have nothing to do with the longer-term but tense issues of enlarging NATO to include Eastern Europe. But that is very much on the minds of Moscow and Paris, and another reason for them to consider

the decisions to be taken now as a risky slippery slope. There needs to be a much clearer explanation of what the United States is seeking to achieve if any possible

accord is to be based on more

than the shakiest founda-

The hypocrisy of saying America is determined to maintain the integrity of the Bosnian state with the separation plan, and all the worse with distinct zones of responsibility for intervention forces, only reinforces

I think the United States must send the promised 20,000 to 25,000 men, under NATO command, or forfeit all credibility as a world leader and force for order. For Congress to renege on President Clinton's commitment would cause historic ruptures that could rival the results of President Woodrow Wilson's rebuff on the League of Na-

But the patchy, disintegrative way the deal is shaping up could be as bad. If I were a member of Cognress and it came up for approval as now foreshadowed, I would vote "no." The time for clarity of thought and clarity of presentation is now, not when hindsight has to admit that tricks didn't work as expected and grave mistakes were made International Herald Tri-

## deserved

To the Editor: PLEASE ACCEPT my congratulations and those of all staff members of Zarqa Municipality on your 20th anniversary. I hope the Jordan Times will continue its march in raising the banner of independent and daring journalism, defending Jordan's causes and presenting its message to the world. We wish

you more progress and success.

Dr. Mustafeh Al Fayyadh, Zarqa.

I CONGRATULATE you on the Jordan Times' 20th anniversary on behalf of the staff of the Department of Press and Publications. I wish you further success and progress.

> Mohammad Amin, Director, Department of Press and Publications, Amman.

I would like to place on record my congratulations to you and your colleagues in the Jordan Times on the 20th anniversary of your newspaper. Ever since my arrival in Amman. I have found the Jordan Times essential reading in my professional work as ambassador. It is a well produced newspaper with its own distinctive character. Your editorial outlook is urbane, cultivated and frequently very human. The Jordan Times thus performs a vital role in presenting to the world a worthy image of Jordan. For these reasons, you fully deserve the accolades that are being showered upon you. Best wishes and good luck for the future.

> Ali Sarwar Nagvi, Ambassador of Pakistan,

I WISH the Jordan Times more success and progress on its 20th anniversary so that it will continue to serve our beloved Jordan under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

> Qasem Al Dumour. Al Hassan Industrial Irbid.

I congratulate you on your 20th anniversary. I thoroughly enjoy reading the Jordan Times, especially its distinguished coverage of local news and international sports. The news items that I read in the Jordan Times are usually are usually not covered by other Jordanian dailies. Keep up the good work and I wish you every success.

#### George S. Khoury, Amman.

THE EDITOR and staff of the Jordan Times would like to thank the readers for the support and encouragement they offered on the newspaper's 20th anniversary. We thank all those who visited our offices, wrote letters, telephoned or sent flowers to congratulate us on the occasion. We take this opportunity to renew our commitment to serious and independent journalism and to serving our readers in the best way we can.

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## Society on the Move

## The ups and downs on the MENA sidelines

Acclaimed as a great success the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit came and went, and most of those who helped to stage the three-day event are either soaking their feet in Dead Sea bath salts or sitting somewhere contemplating if they could ever do it ugain. For all intents and purposes, the Amman-sponsored conference was "the best show, thematically and even structurally, and everyone feels that way," says Arab-American Institute President James Zogby, who was here for the entire event. Although orchestrated with few real dilemmas, the summit did suffer a few drawbacks, but it also showed what people can do when they genuinely team up. On the drawback side were some reported circumstances which were felt perhaps only by the media who were here to cover the packed schedule of events, Jordan Times Reporter Ayman Safadi spoke to colleagues as well as media officials at the press centre set up in Al Hussein Sports City to accommodate the needs of about 600 journalists. Most of them, he said, were disturbed by what they described as the uncooperative attitude of certain members of the press office of the World Economic Forum (WEF), the titular organisers of the summit, in dealing the legitimate needs of the media. While the Ministry of Information was responsible for the structural and operational aspects of the press centre. the responsibility of the distribution of conference documents, press releases and project proposals was that of the WEF. Because the plenary and thematic sessions of the conference, held at the Royal Cultural Centre, were closed to all but 100 foreign journalists with passes, and an additional 50 Jordanian journalists who were given the same passes by Ministry of Information Secretary General Nayef Maula, the job of some young Jordanian volunteers, said a Jordanian official, was to document the proceedings and make the texts available to the remaining 500 or so journalists. But, even with all that help, journalists still complained of long delays in obtaining press releases and other materials being issued on the various MENA activities. Equally perturbing was an incident in which a group of British journalists said they were stuck at their hotel Friday and part of Saturday because the press passes that they had applied for in advance through the WEF offices in Geneva were still not prepared. By the time the dust settled on Wednesday an official of one international organisation in Anunan said essential documents, whose distribution was the responsibility of the WEF, particularly copies of the project proposals, were still unavailable. The first efforts by the Jordan Times to obtain a comment from a WEF representative were futile as she refused to saying anything. Attempts Wednesday to contact Gregory Blatt, who was in charge of the WEF press office, also failed as he had checked out of his hotel early and was headed for the airport. But commenting from the official Jordanian side on the performance of the WEF, whose business by the way is conference planning, Secretary General Maula said, the ministry has the expertise and experience to handle the press side of such an event, "we could have done the job without the help of anybody."

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ROAD BLOCKS & BLACK BRIEFCASES: Putting his own complaint in writing, Al Ra'i columnist Sultan Hattah published a piece the day after the summit concluded, in which he said he hoped that the "suffering" of the people who were forced to use detours through Amman during the summit "will not be repeated." Hattab thanked God that the summit lasted no longer than three days and that it was a "once-in-a-lifetime" happening and not a seasonal occurrence. But what he harped on was what he described as the inequitable treatment of Jordanian journalists. "We were hoping as Jordanian journalists to be treated as counterparts coming from the Caribbean, Belgium, Poland or China." As journalists who have attended more than a few international conferences. Hattab wrote, "we became accustomed to equal treatment." He com-

plained that the "killing detours were consuming our

time and wrecking our nerves" saying that the press badges were useless and did not allow him and his Jordanian colleagues to pass through the road blocks. He protested that the "luxury facilities of conference halls, communications and other services" were not as easily made available to the Jordanian contingent of journalists, "as was the case for the foreigners." But perhaps what most disturbed Hattab, was that despite, as he said, the many attempts by himself and some of his colleagues to obtain the much coveted black briefcase containing press material, he never did get hold of one. He said many of these briefcases made it into the hands of other Arab and foreign journalists, and even persons who were not journalists. But his was not a column of total protestation. Hattab ended saying "We love our country and any measure taken by it to succeed, and find that the conference was a great achievement and source of pride for us in terms of preparation and management. He also commended the Crown Prince for his "exemplary" role in his interviews, debates, and directives while serving as chairman of the

T'WAS A SECURITY

MATTER: Al Sabeel

weekly, had some-

thing to say about

the treatment of Jor-

danian journalists when it published a

commentary Tuesday

saying the security for the MENA sum-

mit was so tight that

some of the paper's

colleagues were not

even allowed to

international forum.

The paper quoted

The 'message' was there all the time

While some of us were labouring over the hidden meaning, if any, behind HRH Crown Prince Hassan's globalisation message to the Jordan Times on the occasion of its 20th anniversary, others were savouring the sweet delights the Crown Prince had sent to our offices. In the meantime, somehow another note from Their Highnesses Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath, which had been attached to the box of sweets, mysteriously appeared days later. In it were salutations and good wishes for the years to come. The message (written in Arabic) read: "We congratulate you and the members of your staff on the passing of 20 years since you started your efforts and labour in making Jordan's message clear and honest." The moral of the story is that all that pondering and soul-searching could have been avoided had someone with sticky fingers just let that little note be. Nonetheless it was an exercise of the mind and the good wishes were indeed appreciated so too were the sweets.

Nidal Mansour, chief editor of Al Hadeth, as saying that he was never informed whether or not he would be allowed to attend the economic conference. Mr. Mansour was said to say that for him this was a cause for wonder. Al Sabeel also quoted Jihad Jbara, chief editor of Sawt Al Mara (Voice of the Woman), who it said was also prohibited from attending the summit. According to Al Sabeel, Mr. Jbara said, "How can they allow a Jordanian to be a chief editor of a paper and then not allow him to enter the summit, while permitting journalists from all over the world." Mr. Jbara, the paper said, was told by the Ministry of Information that the reason he was refused a press pass was "security," with no further

THE MOTHER OF ALL GRAMMARIANS? You may remember the Ad Dustour ghost writer Sahbanturned-Halim, better known as Fahkri Kawar, the president of the General Union of Arab Writers. In three short paragraphs "Halim" blasted the quality of simultaneous translations at the MENA summit. According to the writer, Sibaweih, the father of Arab grammar, "must have been turning in his grave at the inferior pronunciation and the complete ignorance of basic Arabic gram-mar," as demonstrated by the translators, who, by the way, were selected by the WEF.

MIXING BUSINESS & PLEASURE: While the press may have had a tough time of it, the MENA participants not only applauded the business edge of the summit but the hospitality of their Jordanian colleagues. Visiting businesspersons attending the summit were

treated to a lavish dinner replete with entertainment selected to reflect the "face of Jordan." Actually, two dinners were hosted simultaneously at the Philadelphia and InterContinental hotels. The big hosts were prominent businessmen Jad Maqdah, chairman of the board of CJC, the shirtmakers, and Thabit Taher, former minister of energy and chairman of the private sector committee entrusted with preparing for MENA. On the programme were skit performances by Hisham Younis and Nabil Sawalha of the Hisham & Nabil Theatre which "surprised and delighted the audiences," dances by the Circussian folklore troupe of the New Gil, traditional dablehs performed by 23 dancers and musicians from the Royal Jordanian Airlines (RJ) Folklore troupe, and a fashion show of modern and traditional apparel. The shows and art direction were the celebrated talents of Bassam Sheikh Jawad who probably deserves the largest round of applause for staging, at two venues mind you, what was described by guests and officials alike as a superb evening. Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah and Princess

Rania attended the soirée at the Philadelphia Hotel along with about 700 other guests including ambassadors. members of official delegations to MENA and private sector businesspersons. Master of Cere-Philadelphia Hotel was RJ Vice President for Investments Akel Biltaji.

SHMEISANI-

SIDE: No sooner was the summit over than shopkeepers and café owners in Shmeisani were surprised by the sight of a man strolling by with perhaps more security than some very important people in Jordan. The man was none other than Israeli-Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who, accompanied by Israeli Ambassador to Jordan Shimon Shamir, took a "long walk" through Shmeisani, from the Forte Grand Hotel through the shopping district and back to the hotel. In those 45 minutes, Mr. Peres stopped at several cafés for refreshments, ate a shawermah sandwich at a sidewalk stand, and even took in a smoke on an argileh at one of Shmeisani's many hubbly bubbly establishments. But that last experience may have been a bit too 'heady' for the former smoker. Mr. Peres was quoted by the Associated Press Wednesday as saying that he had been a heavy smoker. "I haven't smoked for eight years," he said after nearly choking. Several shopowners, closed their shops to run out and meet Mr. Peres. The foreign minister stopped to chat with many of the folks he met and asked them about their jobs, the economy and whether they felt peace would make a positive difference in their lives. With schoolchildren, Mr. Peres asked about their studies. According to Ambassador Shamir, Mr. Peres was very warmly received all along his way through the streets of Shmeisani. Needless to say Mr. Peres experienced some typical Jordanian hospitality, and his tab was naturally.

REPORT ON THE RAPPORTEUR: It is rare that bringing together high ranking foreign officials, more than 1,000 participants, 600 journalists, and other personnel, not to mention the human resources required by Jordan, for an event such as Amman has never seen, would run through without a casualty. The unfortunate



Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres nearly chokes after a puff from an argileh in a café in the Shmeisani district of Amman. Mr. Shamir said he had quit smoking eight years ago (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

but thankfully not critical mishap occurred on the last day of the summit. Amman Financial Market Director Ummayya Touqan, who was the MENA summit's rapporteur, took a fall and injured a ligament in his ankle. We hear he is recuperating well at home, and we wish him a speedy return to his work at the stock exchange.

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COMMENDATIONS IN ORDER: Last but not least, officials saluted the volunteers in the operations room at the Amman Financial Market and at the RCC. saying that it was truly heartening to see such young people pool together with dynamism and potential to get a job done. Many attendees to the summit were also quite impressed at the politeness of the security people, in and around the conference venues, saying that they should be commended because their helpful attitude during these three days, particularly that of the uniformed officers, "made a big difference." One more mention should go to the Raneen Advertising Company whose logo was selected among those submitted by several countries to be the official MENA '95 logo. Raneen General Manager Hassan Keilani, 24, son of Advisor to His Majesty King Hussein Mohammad Rasoul Keilani, recieved a letter of thanks from Yanal Hikmat, the official supervisor of the summit, who praised Raneen's designs as distinguished and reflecting the modernity of the

Jennifer Hamarneh

## Linda McCartney turns veggie crusade into growing food empire

By Maggie Jackson The Associated press

NEW YORK — Linda McCartney settles her jeans-clad self into a plush sofa in a \$600-a-night hotel suite, kicks off black rubber thongs and wiggles two bare feet with cherry red toenails.

"Let's relax," she says to a visitor, her voice a throaty blend of English and American accents. "Let's just relax."

Linda Eastman McCartney, the woman who married the cutest Beatle and has been dogged by detractors ever since, is clearly enjoying herself. With a multimillion-dollar cookbook and food empire built around her crusade for vegetarianism, she's found a new - and gentler - place in the spot-

Her first cookbook, published in 1989, has sold 400,000 copies worldwide and publishers fought over rights to her second, published this month. Nearly 160 million meatless

frozen meals bearing her name have been sold. She's even attached her name to vegetarian dog food. Yes, dog food. She's quick to admit the McCartney name surely

helped. But only at first,

"In the beginning, the McCartney name was it," she said in an interview punctuated by the fussings of a hairdresser, a daughter and a bevy of publicists. "But as someone said in the food business, they'll try your product once, and if it doesn't taste good, they don't come back.'

Still, like a child receiving an unexpected treat. she also seems genuinely surprised by her success and the public adulation

that has come with it. "It's great," McCartney. "I'll go to the theatre, to the junk shop and I'll always have one or two people say to me, Linda, love your (meatless) sausages', 'Linda, love your cookbook'" A quarter-century ago, when a 27-year-old American rock-and-roll photographer married adorable Beatle Paul, the reception was far less warm. Some fans were so upset by the sacrilege that they broke into the couple's house and ransacked

Linda's things. "The first rule is that no one should marry a Beatle, and at that time he was the only remaining bachelor Beatle," says Geoff Baker, a spokesman for the McCartneys. "She got a lot of flak."

Later, she drew withering criticism for playing keyboard in Paul's band Wings despite a lack of musical experience and so critics said - talent. A pirated tape of Wings playing Hey Jude in concert, in which all but Linda's off-key warbles are blocked out, has

popped up for years.
"When people had that Hey Jude tape, she just sat there crying in front of me, saying 'Why are they doing this?'" says Baker, who adds that Linda probably draws extra fire in Britain for being outspoken and American.

Even her longtime photography work draws biting criticism. "She's not a bad photographer, she's serious and active," says Miles Barth, a curator at the International Centre of Photography in New York City. "But she probably wouldn't have achieved the exhibitions and books that she has if she wasn't married to Paul McCart-

McCartney at first looks uncomfortable when asked about the vitriol that is ebbing but still directed her way for her causes and ventures, her outspokenness and flower child talk. Yet when Baker interjects that she's no longer criticised and tries to halt the interview, she quickly cuts him short.

"No, it is true," says McCurtney, whose angular face, earthy manner and blonde locks make her look at least a decade younger than her 54 years.

"Maybe people are a bit envious that I married the Beatle they all loved. ... They didn't like Jesus, did they? Look what they did to him. Not that I'm comparing myself ..." she

Finally, she shrugs, "well, we all like to be liked. But what are you going to do if people you don't know don't like you?"

In one venture at least, McCartney is attracting far more fans than critics.

Her first cookbook "wasn't an instant hit" when published in Britain in 1989, says Nigel Newton, managing director of Bloomsbury Publishing Ltd. But the book, Linda McCartney's Home Cooking, later became a British bestseller for months and has since come out in the United States and six other

A line of ready-made foods by United Biscuits Group followed, with U.K. sales reaching \$51 million last year and 150 million meals total sold.

Recently, the company opened a \$16 million factory in England devoted to her products, each of which is personally approved by McCartney.

When the meals hit the United States last year, reviews were mixed, at best calling them "hearty and filling" and at worst "bland on the run," a play on the Wings hit Band On The Run.

Yet 10 million meals -from Tex-Mex Tostada to Spaghetti Milano — have been gobbled in U.S. test markets, and the line has just debuted in Holland. This year, as well, British dogs began finding McCartney-approved vegetarian fodder in their bowls.

Her fare undoubtedly came along at the right time. Spurred by health concerns, growing numbers of Americans and Britons are forsaking meat, at least as a daily necessity. Vegetarian cooking - including McCartney's — also has been spiced up since the days when it revolved around brown rice and

To answer consumer demands, McCartney lately has tried to reduce the fat and salt in her products and recipes. The British maker of her veggie burgers recently jumped to recall stocks after a report said they contained twice as much fat as listed on the

Still, it's not health concerns that drive McCartney, a tireless - sometimes tiresome — crusader against meat-eating for one reason: Saving animais.

"To think, we rear an animal and we befriend it, and we send it off to be murdered," she says. "And they scream and they watch their children being murdered and they watch their aunts and uncles being murdered and all their relatives and then we eat that fear."

McCartney, who converted to vegetarianism along with Paul more than 20 years ago after watching lambs gambol on their Scottish farm, peppers her talk with such tirades, calling meat "dead flesh" and leather "animal skin."

Just as energetically, she tucks in a plea for boycotting French cheese to protest nuclear explosions or an exultation on simple living. "Sit me in a field. Put me out on a horse. ... I just love that." It would sound like a put-on, were it not so sincere.

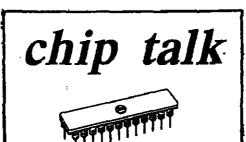
After all, here is a woman who has multimillions and every chance for an ultra-jet set life, yet chose to raise four children in a two-bedroom home without a nanny or cook. By many accounts, she's surprisingly unpre-

"I like natural living, if I'm only going to live once," she says. "I want to feel alive. I don't want to be totally afraid, and I think having all the trappings makes you feel dead.

"By the way, have you thought of going veggie?" Last week I saw the light. I suddenly understood why PCs in general and Microsoft in particular have had such tremendous success and have created a true revolution in the world of computing. I mean the real reason, not the technical characteristics or features. What produced the spark was the song I was listening to — "Fun, Fun, Fun," the Beach Boys famous hit, back in 1964 — while I was using my PC, adjusting the colours of an Excel chart to give it maximum visual impact.

The main duty of those who design tools, machines, software, objects, clothes, etc. is to give them functionality. Since mankind is well-past the Iron Age, functionality is not enough anymore. To attract the clients and beat the competition, designers have learned to add a certain dose of embellishment to their products. A car, originally a machine made to let you travel from one place to another, has become a second home. With all the comforts built in modern vehicles, driving a car - barring traffic lights --- has become a pleasure, not just a necessity. Being in control of a fast car, sitting behind a power steering wheel, listening to Chopin waltzes on the car's CD player is fun, great fun.

Most software publishers have successfully implemented the idea. Sophisticated computer games are but the ultimate form of fun computing, albiet with little utility. However, Microsoft Windows system has taken the art of mixing work with pleasure to unprecedented hights. Take Excel spreadsheet programme for example. Type in a few



people's names with some data next to them, like their age, click the mouse on the chart icon, select the area containing the data on the screen with the mouse, drag and drop and you have a complete, well presented colour chart in less than 10 seconds. If this isn't fun then what

Fun with software was considered as an added value to serious work, now it is what makes you feel like working. From secondary it has become the prime reason. The way Windows and related software put the user in control of all functions gives him or her a genuine feel of power and enjoyment. Some people admit that they "get their kicks"

One of the brochures I collected earlier this week at METS 95 (Jordan's computer and technology show) rightfully introduces new software as having "More Power, More Freedom, More Fun." If "Fun, Fun, Fun" was about surfing in California, computing under Windows is like a dream ride on the waves of software.

## Toys for the boys

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaeen

Today --- a grand test your knowledge quiz! Yes, your chance to show just how much you know about the place where you live and the people you share it

Here we go then!

1. Do you know of any study that could tell you for sure whether poverty, if it can at all be measured, has actually gone up or down in the areas where you live? 2. In what circumstances can you imagine yourself

needing such a study in the first place? 3. Would you, for example, need to use it while preparing a list of development projects for the millennium cel-

ebrations in your country? 4. Do you think that you would have been asked to lend a helping hand in your field of specialisation as part of the preparations for an economic summit if you were: a) able to communicate with others in four different

languages.
b) able to communicate with others in three different languages.

c) able to communicate with others in two languages. d) able to speak only one language, your mother tongue.

5. Well, when do you think that you would have been

6. Some economists and think-tanks are by now household names. These have become famous for saying that "nobody promised us the cure to all our ills". Should these people now expect to get a cheer from the ordinary people who had every right to have had very high expecta-

7. The idea of writing and putting pen to paper, to point out some of the problems and dilemmas in the way we design and build things, plan our roads, structure our economy, invest in our beritage and culture and in our future generations, is, in itself, just an idea. But can you think of anything good that would come out of it?

8. Can you think of anything at all that would come out

9. Could you say that there are enough hotel rooms available in your city for all the guests of an economic

10. If there aren't, which of these possible scenarios would you think could be the most likely to happen: a) vacant apartments would be rented out, pushing

prices up. b) apartments would be bought to that end, pushing

c) other arrangements would be made involving using the facilities of friendly neighbouring countries. 11. How many of our university and college students would you say have access to the latest titles and most recent publications in the fields of pure sciences, the arts

or the humanities? 12. How many, of those students, would you say have access to the latest technologies, such as computer-hardware and software, at their places of study?

13. Is the model of the economic relationship of the United States with Latin America an acceptable one for the Middle East where one country would be the domi-

14. Why do cities such as Salt have as big a traffic prob-

lem as Amman when there aren't as many cars there? 15. And why are one-way streets in such a throbbing and vibrant city, a matter of public knowledge, irrespective of sign-posting?

16. If a commission charged with gathering money for a series of projects celebrating the millennium is set up, would you have any specific ideas as to where and how that money would be best invested?

How many of these questions do you think you got right? If you think you got all of them right - well done! If not, well, that is another story.

attribute my longevity to the persistent use of garlic. Now don't breathe that to a soul."

SON: "The secret or the garlic?"

## JTV CHANNEL TWO WEEKLY PREVIEW

### Thursday, Nov. 2, 1995

- Iris The Happy Professor
- Fireman Sam My Secret Identity
- Mountain Men
- The New Leave It to Beaver Gillette World Sport
- White Heat
- French Programme
- Cocotte Minute Varieties And Game Show
- Le Journal
- Magazine
- News Headlines
- National Georgraphic
- The Album Show
- The New Avengers 10:00 News In English
- Movie Coogan's Bluff
  Starring: Clint Eastwood & Susan Clark
- 11:50 The Thorn Birds

## Friday, Nov. 3, 1995

- 1:00 Read A Lee Deed A Lee
- Beethoven The Ronn Lucas Show
- White Fang 2:00
- 2:30 Space Rangers
- 3:30 Tall Tales & Legends Bush School
- French Programme Cocotte Minute
- Telefilm 7:00 Le Journal
- 7:15 Magazine
- E=M6
- **News Headlines** African Skies
- Coach
- Natural Wonders Of Europe
- 10:00 News In English
- 10:25 Buccaneers 11:30 Movie The Happy Ending
- Starring: Jean Simmons & John Forsythe

## Saturday, Nov. 4, 1995

- Back To The Future Harry And The Hendersons Blue Heelers
- 3:30 4:00 Only In Hollywood
- I Love Lucy
- 4:30
- French Programme 5:00 Cocttee Minute
- Documentary
- L'Historie Du Cirque
- 6:00 Drama Series Operation Open I Et 2
- Le Journal
- Magazine 7:15 Faut Pas Rever
- News Headlines
- 7:35 Major Dad 8:00
- First Flights
  The Bold And The Beautiful 8:25
- Star Treck The Next Generation
- News In English Movie: "Loma Doone"
- Starring: Clive Owen & Jean Bean 12:00 L'histoire Secrete Du Petrole

## Sunday, Nov. 5, 1995

- The Flintstones Joshua Jones
- Droopy Master Detective Family Playhouse 3:10
- Scientific Eye Puywall's Summer 3:50
- 4:00 I Love Lucy
- 4:30 Tarzan 5:00
- French Programme Cocotte Minute
- Serie Fruits Et Legumes
- Document
- La Multinational Le Journal 7:00

- Magazine Sports Et Musique
- 7:30 News Headlines
- Nurses Cinema, Cinema
- The Bold And The Beautiful
- 9:10 Futures
- 9:30 Heartbeat
- 10:00 News In English
- 10:25 Counter Strike 11:10 Cassidy
- 12:30 My Two Wives

### Monday, Nov. 6, 1995

- Shelley Duvall's Bed Time Stories
- Play About 2:30
- Hey Dad Nature World Of Mistuaki I Love Lucy
- Tarzan
- French Programme
- Serie
- Le Journal
- 7:15 Magazine
- News Headlines 7:30
- Inventions 8:00
- 9:10 Star Treck
- 10:25 Inspector Morse 12:30 American Chart Show

- 2:30 M.A.N.T.I.S
- Cocotte Minute
- Fruits Et Legumes
- 7:00 Le Journal
- 8:Dv
- 8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
- 9:10 True Blue
- 10:00 News In English
- 10:30 Movie: "Murderous Affairs"

#### Starring: Chris Sarandon & Virginia Madsen 12:00 Mancy Wake

- **Ghost Writers**
- Tomorrow's World 3:30
- I Love Lucy 4:30
- Tarzan
- 5:30
- Le Journal
- Magazine Sports Et Musiqui
- Anything For A Laugh 7:35
- 8:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
- 10:25 Prism
- 10:45 Law And Order 11:40 The Silk Road 12:30 Second Thoughts

## Cocotte Minute Maria Vandamme Nimbus

- McHales's Navy
- 7:35 The Bold And The Beautiful 8:30

## 10:00 News In English

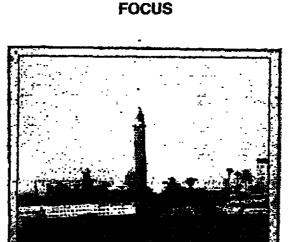
## Tuesday, Nov. 7, 1995

- Captain Planet
- 3:15 To Run The Gauntlet
- I Love Lucy 4:30 Tarzan
- French Programme 5:30 Serie
- 6:00 Magazine
- Magazine
- Ushuaia News Headlines
- You Bet Your Life
- The Secrets Of Treasure Islands

- Wednesday, Nov. 8, 1995 2:00 Inspector Gadget
- **Amazing Stories**
- French Programme Cocotte Minute
- Pago Pago
- **News Headlines** 8:00 Amazing Races
- 9:10 Star Treck 10:00 News In English

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Mohammad A. Shuqair



### The River Nile

- A great river in Africa. Nearly 4,150 miles long. - Considered the world's longest river.
- Fed by Blue and white Niles. - Rises in Lake Victoria and flows north to the
- Mediterranean Sea. - Fertile silt-laden flood waters basis of ancient
- Egyptian economy. - Exploited jointly with Egypt and the Sudan. Dams (e.g. the High Dam) have been built across

## the Nile to store up its water.

- LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC
- How long have they been married? Kam mada ala zawajihima?. — Twenty years.
- Ishreena sana. - Have they ever quarrelled? Hal sabaga wa'an tasha-
- jaraa? - Very often. Miraran watikrararn. — Do you know why?

- Her husband takes to gambling..

**JOKES** \* HE: "They tell me Colonel Lively is a sexagenarian."

SHE: "The old fool' and at his age, too!"

Le'anna zawjaha muqamir.

\* SON: "Well, dad, you've managed to live to a ripe old age. How did you manage to keep the germs of disease away all these many yars?"

turer of "bionic ears", Cochlear Ltd. is to be Leads Business Telectronic Pacing Systems Inc. floated and its parent hopes to raise up to Australian dollars 125 million (\$94.5 million).

Industrial conglomerate

Pacific Dunlop Ltd said

Dunlop's medical equip-

to grow.

that the flotation would communication ability of improve Cochlear's ability the deaf, who derive little benefit from hearing aids. Cochlear is being floated out of Nucleus Ltd, Pacific The company is the only Cochlear implant manu-

(FDA) approval for the use world's largest manufac- owns Pacemaker and of its implants by adults and children.

> for recipients of Cochlear implants. The implants are designed to improve the exciting future through the impaired people to enjoy a better quality of life," said facturer to have U.S. Food Professor

chairman. Cochlear exports to 48

the United States, Japan tors are U.S. David

TEACHER: "Big objects never move easily." PUPIL: "Not always, sir." TEACHER: "How?"

PUPIL: "Just put a banana peell in a big man's way

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

and see how he rolls so easily!!"

- 1. Define the following:
- a) Oligarchy b) Plutocracy c) Hagiocracy

m) cows

d) Kakistocracy e) Statocracy

2. Name birds or a	the sounds nimals:	produced	by these
a) ducks	b) bigs	c) mice	d) doves
e) owls	f) turkey	g) Hogs	h) bulls
i) roosters	j) seals	k) horses	l)crows

o) frogs

## **PUZZLES**

## \* THE MISSING VOWEL

n) hens

Can you make sense of the following by inserting the same vowel twelve times?

FATHER: "I'll let you in on a little secret, son. I — MBBNGGNNLLNOSSLLCT.

## Biggest maker of 'bionic ears' to float SYDNEY (R) —The ment group which also and Drug Administration Penington,

"Cochlear provides an Cochlear controls 85 per cent of the world market opportunity to invest in a business that is already a world leader and has an development of devices which enable an increasing number of hearingcountries, mainly Europe,

and Australia, and has a developing presence in Eastern Europe, South America and China. The company's main competi-Advanced Bionics Corp and Austrian-based company Med El.

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Sigourney Weaver

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## Sigourney Weaver — no longer a heroine addict

By Douglas J. Rowe The Associated Press

NEW YORK — To some, she's still ripley. It still amazes Sigourney Weaver that when she meets people, that's the first role of hers so many cite.

There's no denying that the part of a sexy, sweaty, 6-foot (1.8metre) woman wielding a flame-thrower to blast into outer space is a memorable one.

That's probably why Weaver herself can say in a matter-of-fact tone rather than a resigned one: 'I'm sure I'm already typecast in a lot of people's minds."

But even though she reprised her first major film role, 1979's Alien, with two sequels (1986's Aliens and 1992's Alien 3), her say, you know who career can be characterised as varied, even distinguished.

actress has appeared in the Ghostbusters comedies, The Year Of Living Dangerously and Roman Polanski's film adaptation of Death And The Maiden.

She received a bestactress Academy Award nomination for Aliens, then two Oscars nominations in one year best actress for Gorillas In The Mist and best supporting actress for Working Girl, both

1988 releases. It's true, in most of her roles, she's a straightahead, stalwart type. But in Polanski's film and her latest, Copycat, in which she plays a criminal psychologist who has a nervous breakdown, she appears to be giving up her addiction to heroine

film's Helen Hudson, who's transformed into a pill-popper suffering from agoraphobia induced by one of the serial killers she's studying, certainly won't be confused with

She's housebound and easily petrified. Months after the attack that decimated her, she reluctantly agrees to help a way. You know, just let detective (played by your talents and your detective (played by Holly Hunter) who's determined to solve the latest serial killer case. (His pattern is to replicate, in turn, a murder by famous serial killers

such as the Boston

Strangler Bundy) While trying to range

widely with her roles, only recently would Weaver allow that her career is not riddled with doubts. There was a time when she would suggest someone for a certain part over herself, once saying: "I think I get sent the roles Meryl

(Streep) is not doing. Even with Copycat, actresses were lined up before her, but they opted out for whatever reasons.

"I think at that point I didn't offer any better people," she said, chuckling, in a recent interview Manhattan hotel suite. "The roles are not that plentiful.

"I always used to do that. I used to go in and would really be great in this part?' ... I would d. always give them some-46-year-old one else. I couldn't stop myself. It was, I think, probably the producer in me that I could see it cast. And sometimes

> intimidated." Like when the part of Dian Fossey came up in Gorillas In The Mist. she proposed Diane Keaton and Vanessa Redgrave.

part of it was just I was

"It took me a while to take on the big parts," Weaver said. "I'm used to playing straightforward people. And when the characters are very complex, I don't know that I felt I had enough training, in a way, to be able to tell their stories. But now I've learned so much over the years that now I feel capable of showing a lot different

sides of people." Weaver - who lives in New York with her husband, theatre director Jim Simpson and their young daughter, Charlotte — still tends to agonise over her work. But now that she has more experience, she said she realises "the important thing is to play the character. In other words, you try to leave yourself alone.

You get out of your own training do it." Now there's a phrase for the 1990s: just do it. Yet, that "it" hasn't included many come-

dies or romantic leads.

"It's amazing to me you."

and Ted that I haven't done more comedy. It's the one thing I think I'm really good at it," she said, revealing that next year she'll appear in a new comedic play by old pal Christopher Durang.

"I think love stories are the most fun film you can do. I always end up playing these ultraserious people."

She's turned down a lot of comedies because she says there aren't that many great comedic roles and scripts for women, and the right directors to handle

"There are a lot of things that, I think, you can get away with in a normal film. But a comedy really has to be this souffle," she said.

She figures that she's only been in a few really nice romantic films because studio heads probably don't think of a tall woman like her for a conventional love story. "It has to be a sort of weird love story," for her to be tabbed, she

suggested. "If I had my choice I would do nothing but romantic comedies," she said.

So what's she doing

"You know, I never have a plan. I never have a goal," said Weaver, the daughter of Sylvester "Pat" Weaver, a long-ago president of the NBC Broadcast Network, and Elizabeth Inglis, an actress who

appeared in The 39

Steps. "I just think in this business it's much better to sort of keep doing your work and see what comes up., ... I don't believe in going after roles. First of all, I never get them. But also I guess I just feel very philosophical about things that come to

## Billie Whitelaw, devoted muse to Beckett

By Paul Majendie Reuter

LONDON --- As muse to playwright Samuel Beckett, actress Billie Whitelaw felt like clay in the hands of a great sculptor.

As leading lady to Laurence Olivier, she watched a master technician who held back from pouring his soul into roles.

The contrast could not be more stark and Whitelaw bluntly compares them in an autobiography spanning 50 years as one of Britain's leading actresses.

She rose from child star to sex symbol of gritty "kitchen sink" dramas. Costars ranged from Albert Finney to Elizabeth Taylor, directors from John Ford to Alfred Hitchcock. But Beckett was always

her greatest inspiration. She cemented her place in theatrical history collaborating with Irish-born Beckett over a quarter of a century.

She was the voice and face of the Nobel Prize winner's complex plays.

"We would sit opposite each other and speak the words in unison, he in a whisper and me out loud while we conducted each other, eyeball to eyeball, bis face changing expression with each phase, just like a conductor.

"Sometimes I felt as if he was a sculptor and I a piece

They instinctively understood each other. The death in 1989 of the soft-spoken playwright with the pale blue eyes had a devastating effect on Whitelaw. "It was never difficult for

me to understand what Beckett wrote because it always seemed to be about me," she writes in her autobiography, Billie Whitelaw ... Who He?

"Who He, I said filing away, and what it?" was a line from Beckett's Play, their first together in 1963. Beckett's plays have baf-



Billie Whitelaw

fled, moved and riveted theatregoers the world over. Whitelaw never tried to analyse them. Only once did she ever ask Beckett a ques-

The answer was typically

"Am I dead?" Beckett replied: "Well, let's say you are not quite there." He was meticulous about

stage directions. Beckett once told her that three "pause" dots on one page should be cut-to two. -Rehearsing for Footfalls, He kept telling her "too. she asked of her character: much colour, too! much

colour," a coded plea for a more naturalistic approach. Olivier is often lauded as Britain's greatest actor. Whitelaw

hailed as one of his greatest roles.

the Shakespearian tragedy

Desdemona to his Othello in

She praises a professional

who inspired hero worship. Playing before Leonid Brezhnev in Moscow, they were given a 25-minute ovation by the Kremlin leader and his politburo. But she felt there was

always something missing. "He was technically so polished that his performance shone like a diamond. Yet I couldn't belp thinking that he wasn't personally involved," she says of Olivier.

He was even charming when sacking fellow thespians at Britain's pioneering National Theatre.

Olivier told Whitelaw: "We simply have nothing suitable to offer you, nothing that is worthy of you. I think you should now extend your career and expand your talent. It's been marvellous working with

Whitelaw, a wartime child whose father died of cancer, has not had an easy life. Her son Matthew nearly died of meningitis, her husband, writer Robert Muller, was almost killed by a heart

She admits calmly contemplating suicide as fiveyear-old Matthew lay in hospital on the verge of

"In a quite practical unemotional way, I thought it would be better if I went with him in case he got lost if he died...He'd be too little to manage on his own."

At 62. Whitelaw is as busy as ever, including lecture stints across the United States explaining to students the enigma of Beckett. . Her sense of loss is acute às ever: "Sam's death to me was like an amputation."

Writing her autobiography has clearly been a cathartic exercise. She ends by pen-

ning her own epitaph:
"When I have had enough of my own life, I want to go with a jar of valium and a magnum of champagne. I don't consider it a sin to

## years of filmmal Astoria section of New York City

By Marlene Aig The Associated Press

NEW YORK — On the biggest stage at Kaufman Astoria Studios, designers have re-created a Florida trailer park, complete with palm trees, for the filming of Marvin's Room with Robert De Niro and Meryl Streep.

Nearby are fake Mexican ruins that were put together for The Juror with Demi Moore and Alec Baldwin. That mammoth set is being saved for the moment, in case final location filming in Mexico doesn't work out.

On stage H, Big Bird and Ruth Buzzi are taping a segment of Sesame Street. It's another busy day at the stu-dio complex in the New York borough of Queens, marking its 75th anniversary this year.

The saga of the sprawling film studio in the quiet Astoria neighbourhood is a minimelodrama — it started with great success, fell into oblivion and has since staged a stirring comeback.

Bill Neff, a college film professor who grew up in the neighbourhood in the 1940s, says, "everyone called it 'the big house' back then. It was big."

With six stages, a radio station, a cable TV station, a recording studio and production and support facili-

dressing rooms to a carpen- Manhattan. try shop, the complex has to

be huge.

Its first stars were huge: regulars included Rudolph Valentino, W.C. Fields, Gloria Swanson and the Marx Brothers, who would film during the day and hop back across the East River into Manhattan to do Broadway at night. The complex was taken

over by the U.S. army in 1942 for military films and was unused during part of the 1970s. But it's since been reborn with stars such as Harrison Ford, Diane Keaton and Hume Cronyn and directors including Woody Allen and Sidney Lumet working out of its mammoth spaces.

"It's the closest thing to L.A. studios," says Hal Rosenbluth, the president and chief operating officer of Kaufman Astoria Studios, referring to Los Angeles. "But there's better synergy because of New York.

Its advertising slogans tout it "as slightly east of L.A." and emphasise it's New York-ness: "You can't compare shooting in N.Y. to Hollywood. We've got better bagels."

Slogans aside, Rosenbluth emphasises the deep talent well in the city and the fact that Astoria "is a nice quiet neighbourhood" a subway ties ranging from deluxe ride away from the hustle of Training and propaganda than filming it in California.

"People like coming here," he said. "They say it's like going to the coun-

The facility blends into its working-class industrial neighbourhood like the Corner Deli. Frances Poplawski, who has lived nearby for 44 years, says the studio's presence causes little stir.

The Cosby Show used to draw spectators when the television show taped there from 1987 to 1992, she recalls, but for the most part, "if it weren't for the fact I knew it was there, you wouldn't know." The complex was first

constructed in 1920 by famous players lasky corp., run by Adolph Zukor and Jesse Lasky. It took the name of the distributor, Paramount, in 1927. Feature films were pro-

duced throughout the 1920s and 1930s, including silent versions of The Great Gatsby and Monsieur Beaucaire; the first Marx film, brothers Cocoanuts and their classic, Animal Crackers; The Emperor Jones, starring Paul Robeson; and Bob Hope's debut film, The Big Broadcast Of 1938.

When the army took over the facility in 1942 it renamed it the Signal Corps Photographic

films were produced during World War II and the cold war years.

After the army gave up the facility in 1970, the city acquired ownership and the complex was briefly used by a local community col-A non-profit foundation

took over in 1976 and, in 1977, the big stage, stage "E," which at 26,000 square feet is one of the largest outside of Hollywood, was used to film The Wiz. Real estate developer

George S. Kaufman was given the go-ahead by the city to renovate, expand and revive the landmark in 1980 and KAS was formally cre-

Kaufman expanded the space to 15 acres (6 hectares), developed the multimedia facility and created the American museum of the moving image within the complex to preserve movie history.

The walls of the studio are lined with posters from movies made there since it reopened: Carlito's Way, Scent Of A Woman, Age Of Innocence, Scenes From A Mall, Presumed Innocent, Arthur, The Verdict and a host of Woody Allen films.

Rosenbluth likes the irony of director Nora Ephron recreating Venice, California, on the big stage for her Centre. movie Mixed Nuts rather "That was different," he

High costs kept many producers from filming in the city for years. KAS has attracted work by providing so much in one place, managing to work deals with industry unions and selling the resurgence of New York

Then latter is "the polish on the apple," says Rosenbluth.

His cluttered office in no way suggests the image of a Hollywood mogul: It's small, looks onto some old row houses and is filled with pictures of his family.

He has made the studio profitable by diversification, adding a new lighting division and a new set construction shop for productions requiring sets for loca-\_tion shoots.

People who work there like the location.

"My guys don't like having to go into the city all the time," says Frank Schultz, president of local 52 of studio mechanics, which represents handlers, grips and others. "It's close to the subway and the area's nice."

Says Rosenbluth, "we try to take the high road here. It's a first-class facility where people work. We're not trying to turn it into something it isn't. And we hope to be here another 75

## Identity crisis for African filmn

By Bryan Pearson Agence France Presse

JOHANNESBURG — Film producers and directors across Africa are facing an identity crisis as tastes changing towards Hollywood-style action movies threaten the conti-

nent's long tradition of "liberation" film-making. At a recent seminar here,

respected film-makers were told by their younger colleagues to stop bemoaning the fact that 99 per cent of movies shown on the contioriginate from nent Hollywood and to start making movies that

Africans will pay to see. Tunisian producer Ahmad complaining that govern- try for the fact that only 15

some of Africa's most ment subsidies in his coun- to 20 movies a year are try had been cut back from being made there compared 20 per cent to 10 per cent of production costs.

Only funding by the French and Italian governments and the European Union keep the industry afloat, he said.

Egyptian director Yousri Nasrallah blamed Egyptian Attia opened the seminar by nationalisation of the indus-

to the 200 produced annually in the 1950s and 1960s. "We have a crisis," be

For one of Africa's most famous filmmakers, Djibril Diop Mambety of Senegal. the answer to the crisis is

dubbing. "Dubbing — into English, French and Portuguese — is very crucial for distribution," Mambety said. He forecast that dubbing

will help overcome the lack of marketability of U.S. films, a problem the industry has endured since 1963. when Senegal's Ousmane Sembene made "Borom Sarret," the first film produced for a paying audience

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exports to 48 ainly Europe. States, Japan ia, and has a presence in rope, South d China. The main compen-U.S. Bionics Corp

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sterile syringes, alcohol

pads and a condom; and the

opening of 9 "shops" in

Paris and in several towns in

the provinces, which are supposed to be friendly cen-

tres with showers and wash-

ing machines where drugaddicts who are real drop-

outs can find considerable

help or simply be given a

welcome which might

encourage them to seek

treatment. But the most

spectacular, and most con-

troversial measure is the

financing of 1,000 extra

places for treatment by

methadone, which is a syn-

thetic opiate and the oldest

of the substitute products

distributed by

## Fighting AIDS among drug addicts

By Sylvie Chabas

Ten measures aimed at reducing the risks of contamination by AIDS and by hepatitis in drug addicts were presented this summer by the Minister of Social Affairs and Health, Simone Weil, and the Minister of State for Health, Philippe Douste-Blazy. These measures show a clear acceleration in the policy of risk reduction. Indeed, in this area, France was rather behind countries such as Britain. was rather behind countries such as Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland.

PARIS - The number of announced should be impledrug addicts in France is estimated at 150,000, 40 per cent of whom are contaminated by the AIDS virus (compared to less than 10 per cent in Britain, in Switzerland or in the Netherlands) and 70 per cent by Hepatitis C.

Faced with these alarming statistics, the French government is, today, attempting to fall in line with what is being proposed to reduce the risks in countries in which HIV positivity among drug addicts has never exceeded 10 per cent. This policy can be resumed as follows: If it is not possible to prevent drug addicts from taking drugs, at least, let us stop them from dying

Hence the ten measures used.

Methadone — a make- taken every 24 hours. The shift remedy or a miracle solution?

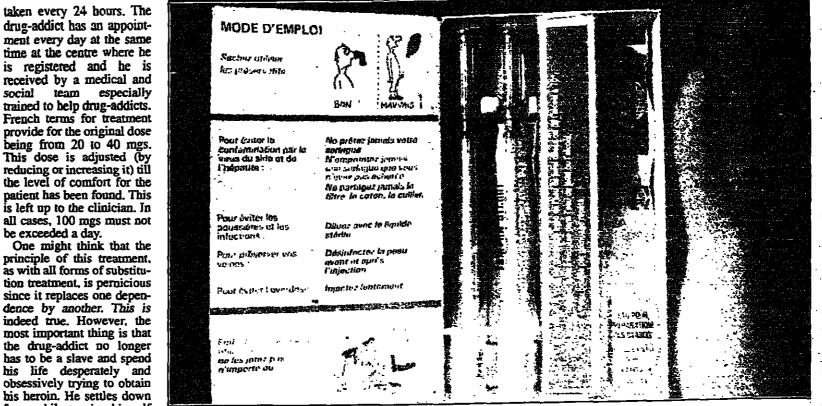
By the end of 1994, there should be places for 1,645 methadone France. Althroughout though this figure appears derisory compared with Switzerland and its 10,000 methadone patients, it still causes a polemic among French specialists of drugaddiction. Anti-methadone doctors denounce this substitution product as being a "fashion" likely to bring about the death of traditional institutions and to conceal the fact that there is a crucial lack of beds for treatment and post-treatment care (only 600 beds for the

whole of France). "It is an emergency", Mrs. Weil declares. "If we do nothing, we will be held responsible for the deaths of drug-addicts". It is true that in the fight against drugs, the arrival of AIDS bas swept away many clear-cut ideas. Many people who previously thought that responsibility could, in no way, be taken for a patient who took "legal" drugs, today consider that, with the threat of AIDS, it is better to take some syrup rather than have an injection.

In fact, methadone is an average reduction of 79.3

drug-addict has an appointment every day at the same time at the centre where he is registered and he is received by a medical and social team especially trained to help drug-addicts. French terms for treatment provide for the original dose being from 20 to 40 mgs. This dose is adjusted (by reducing or increasing it) till the level of comfort for the patient has been found. This is left up to the clinician. In all cases, 100 mgs must not be exceeded a day.

as with all forms of substitution treatment, is pernicious since it replaces one dependence by another. This is indeed true. However, the most important thing is that the drug-addict no longer has to be a slave and spend his life desperately and obsessively trying to obtain his heroin. He settles down for a while to give himself and the therapists and social workers time to implement a reintegration plan. Proof of its effectiveness can be found in the United States in the numerous evaluations made of methadone programme. One of the results, for instance, is that there is



To reduce the risk of contracting the AIDS virus, the prevention kit called Steribos (above) is being distributed in France (AFP photo)

per cent in acts of delinquency by drug-addicts undergoing treatment.

In France, are the nearly 1,600 methadone places sufficient to stem the risk of death by overdose? According to Philippe Douste-Blazy, 5,000 methadone places would be needed in France whereas today only nearly 1,000 places for 500 patients have access to methadone treatment. Or

one day be able to follow the example of the canton of Geneva which, for 3 to

infection, delinquency and this product. Will France will France go so far as to distribute doses of beroine legally as is practised in certain centres in Great Britain 4,000 registered addicts, has or in Switzerland? It is an open debate - L' Actualite caves always for the

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## Fat people fib about what they eat, study says

By Randi Hutter Epstein The Associated Press

LONDON - Being fat seems to make some people forgetful, at least when they describe what they eat.

Responding to diet surveys, the obese often underestimate the fats they conthe researchers

"We don't know if it's lying or a subconscious omission," said Dr. Berit obese people and weightconscious people tend to give biased reports and they tend to be in the fat por-

The findings provide scientific evidence for what many people have long assumed: People get fat by eating too much, rather than by being biologically predisposed to gaining weight quickly on a normal diet.

Dr. Heitmann said she is not debunking the impact of genes on weight gain. She suspects obesity is caused by a genetic predisposition plus overeating.

lished in the British Medical Journal.

Brownell, director of the Yale Centre for Eating and Weight Disorders at Yale University.

"These data speak to the

very origins of obesity itself," said Dr. Brownell. He said the study lends credence -- to environment

over genetic theories of obesity, which have gained popularity lately. It also raises questions about previous findings on diet and based on food surveys.

"If the results of self-"This is an important find- reports are inaccurate, we to estimate a person's fat ing ... and it uses elegant should be less secure with intake.

those findings," said Dr.

The study included 323 Danish men and women --slender and plump between the ages of 35 and 65. They completed onemonth food diaries and gave urine samples. Scientists measured uri-

nary nitrogen, a sign of protein consumption. By subtracting total protein from total energy intake --- which was calculated from body weight, height and exercise - investigators were able

## |Parental attention prevents teen drinking and smoking

WASHINGTON, D.C. — What helps deter young teens from alcohol and smoking? A recent extensive study published in Pediatrics found that teens who had a positive relationship with parents who also knew their teens whereabouts were much less likely to drink and smoke.

Although the results were not surprising, the study was significant in its scope and its multi-ethnic nature. It further isolated the most teristics from a range of possibilities.

Researchers followed one group of students four years from the 5th through the 8th grade and another group of students three years from the 7th through the 9th grade at 24 schools in the Los Angeles area. The students were surveyed annually to assess their recent smoking and drinking behaviour and to evaluate personal and family characteristics. By repeating the survey over several years.

the researchers could identify casual connections leading to teen smoking and

At the beginning of the study, 8 per cent of the 5th graders and 28 per cent of the 7th graders had tried cigarettes while about 10 per cent of the 5th graders and 13 per cent of the 7th graders drank alcohol during the previous month. By the time the 7th grade study group reached the 9th grade, 37 per cent were drinking Among the initial 5th grade group, by the 8th grade 43 per cent had used alcohol in the previous month.

Almost all of the positive parental factors protected adolescents from substance use to varying degrees. These included parental monitoring frequently and quality of communication. time spent with the child. having a positive relationship with the child, the consistency of opinion between parents, and the child living both

Monitoring and maintaining a positive parent-child relationship were the most important parental characteristics for preventing the use of alcohol and tobacco. "A positive parent-child

relationship," according to

the researchers, "is charac-

terised by parents providing

positive feedback through praise, encouragement, and physical affection." They further noted that positive relations appear to result from "parents spending well as having frequent communication, asking for child's opinions, spending time talking, and sharing secrets and other concerns. The positive relationship was linked with students having fewer friends who use tobacco and alcohol. Furthermore, monitoring, which was described as parents knowing where children are outside of school and setting curfews, "directly inhibits disruptive behaviour."

The most consistent risk

factors for the children for smoking and drinking were disruptive behaviour and friends' use of tobacco and alcohol. Disruptive behaviour doubled the likelihood of a child becoming a new smoker and increased the risk of drinking alcohol four nor times. Other risk factors, as analysed such as parents' hid hold other protests as tobacco and alcohol use . The expansion of Pales were also linked to a child's substance use, but to a

weaker degree. The researchers concludthat "given the influence parents have over their children during their formative years, more effort must be directed toward helping parents with child-rearing issues." They further noted that "this effort should not only help parents adopt promising child management techniques... but must create a broad social context that enables parents to have the time and means to develop positive family relationships"— National Institute of Healthcare Research.

per cent of cases, without a

to know that there is no

commercially available test

for tau, and there is no drug

or other treatment available

said Edward Truschke.

president of the Chicago-

Alzheimer's

to fix abnormal tau levels."

"Alzheimer families need

tau spinal tap.

## **WEEKEND CROSSWORD**

STATEMENTS By Dorothy B. Martin

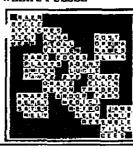
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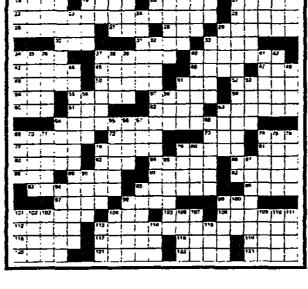
#### Diagramless, 21 x 21 By Frances Burton

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## SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE







- Last Wrck's Cryptograms
- 4. The chief prerequisite for a perquisite is political pull.

LADTCELAQ DVKYMQDT QDDC VLLK DA JDDHKB WCCHW EDMHKH JLQR RMYVDDBW DAA AEDDY. - By Earl Irriand

2.0 TISMEG EDODM: JER ISNIS GNAUT TENOR JER MGREENSU ENSUE!

S. DIGETUVED'S VOGUTIBELSET INNFUNNY WLG STANYT ENVLOYE WHE BIGALFT SOFFOLUV ILUFNU.

4.SH LUCCL BIGH STAYCOUTH APTEQUALCUT EUR OPHI QUATGOUTH GTZ QUESTZGTH.

 Chess gambit detected easily as player looked to mirrol behind opponent and perceived his king move.
 "Tebee," tittered the tipsy tectotaler, "Now, who spiked my pink lemonade?" Would you call a piece of paper fastened to a stone wall stationary stationery?

CRYPTOGRAMS

## THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK

Experience has taught me that the only cruelties people condemn are those with which they do not happen to be familiar - Ellen Glasgow, American author (1874-1945).

The fear of life is the favourite disease of the 20th century — William Lyon Phelps, American educator and journalist (1865-1943),

There is no king who has not had a slave among his ancestors, and no slave who has not had a king among his - Helen Keller, American author and lecturer (1880-1968).

## Spinal fluid may help diagnose Alzheimers

In the past. Alzheimer's

could only be diagnosed

with an autopsy but now a

combination of mental abil-

ity tests and neurological

scanning can give an accu-

WASHINGTON (R) — Testing levels of a protein called tau in spinal fluid may help doctors diagnose Alzheimer's researchers said.

However because the test would involve a painful and cumbersome spinal tap, it is more useful at this point for research than for widespread use among the elder-

Although there is now little that can be done for an Alzheimer's patient, accurate diagnosis can help rule out other, more treatable causes of dementia. Also, as scientists develop potential treatments testing Alzheimer's.

becomes more important. The ability to identify early Alzheimer's disease is critical to testing potential treatments for delaying the onset or for monitoring the severity of the symptoms of

the disease," said Dr. John Alzheimer's before age 65 Trojanowski, a scientist at and those who developed it University later. Most of the recent Pennsylvania School genetic breakthroughs have Medicine. focused on early onset.

The research was funded in part by the National Institute on Ageing (NIA) and is published October's edition of the Annals of Neurology.

the

Although scientists are still unsure of exact cause of Alzheimer's, some researchers believe tau is the main ingredient in the tangles found in the brains of Alzheimer's patients, and tau itself may prove to be a new target for drug development.

The Penn study found that tau levels seemed to rise at early stages of the disease. Also tau may be a very consistent sign of the disease because the levels of the protein were not very different in people who got

#### rate diagnosis in 80 to 90 Association, **ANSWERS**

based

## BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

i- crow

j- bark

o-croak

a- Government by a few, b- Government by the wealthy.

c- Government by priests or ecclesiastics

d- Government by the worst citizens. e- Government by a military class.

a- quack

h- bellow

b- squeal c- squeak d- coo

k-neigh I- caw e- hoot m- moo/low f- gobble n- cłuck g- grunt

**PUZZLES** The Missing Vowel

Imbibing gin in Illinois is illicit.

plans to reope hiportant indicate leturn to norm; shout Islamic fur allists gaining an Britain. Mr. R. We have no diffuse have no diffuse have an allist the same have an allist the same have all the same have all the same have all the same have a same all the sam

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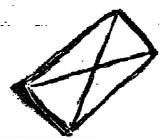
n Great Britain

rland? It is an

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i the likelihood

úse, but 10 -



answer, removing the fears they have of each other or

have had over a long period

of time, seeing the human face of the other side in each

case has created so far a very

healthy atmosphere which we

hope will continue. The dan-

ger is there. There will be

those who try to torpedo this.

But my effort, in particular,

to make it a warm peace, to

get people to get together, is

really the way and the answer, I believe. It shall

never be peace between gov-

ernments or a King's peace or

anything similar. It should be

a peace between people, and

this is where we are moving

and what we have achieved.

A: Many believe there can be

peace without prosperity. How long do you think it will

be before you see some sort

of concrete peace dividend: Will people see that there lives have improved in order

to strengthen this peace?

A: We need time. Obviously,

with agreements reached to-

day some implementation

will begin immediately. Some

areas will require feasibility

studies and so on. But the

cooperation, not only within

the context of Jordan, but

also between Jordan and its

neighbours, and in this case

even Israel in particular...

will bring about some results

soon, and we are optimistic,

hopeful and determined."

(Continued from page 1)

we went to Madrid. We have recovered our land, we have recovered our rights in terms of water resources, and every single area of agreement or discussion within the context of the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty has been covered satisfactorily... people are mixing, meeting, working together. This conference is a result of that in terms of the private sector and its participation. A few days ago, in memory of the passage of one year since the signing ceremony, Jordanian and Israeli pilots flew in joint formations over Israel and Jordan, and this time it wasn't for the wail of sirens that sent people scurrying for cover, not looking up with hope. It was a salute to peace, that is a real peace, a peace between peo-

O: This new warmth between Jordan and the U.S., beween Jordan and the West, is that bringing any specific dividends, do you think? A: Well, I believe that Jordan has always been there in the past. There came a period of ime; as you might recall, when there were certain misunderstandings, but as far as we were concerned our congo so far as lo cem was always for the area, ses of heroine and we have always been

relationships that now have

(Continued from page 1)

The militant groups Hamas

and Islamic Jihad oppose

negotiations with Israel by

which parts of the West Bank

are being handed over to PLO-led self-rule. Israel

keeps the settlements pend-

Settlers meanwhile prop-

Aharon Domb, a leading

settler activist and spokes-

man, also called on settlers to

ter Bethlehem and elections

in East Jerusalem, (the gov-

ing further negotiation.

he children is osed disrupting Christmas

I drinking were celebrations in Bethlehem,

behaviour and where tradition says Jesus

of tobacco an was born, if Mr. Arafat par-

increased the interfere with the participa-

ing alcohol for tion by East Jerusalem Arabs

ar risk facte in Palestinian elections and

ich as paier hold other protests against

d alcohol the expansion of Palestinian

nked to a chiling rationomy in the West Bank.
ise but 10 "By allowing Arafat to en-

en the influence over their children told the AP.

their formative effort must be all had not yet been approved.

vard helping par by the settlers' council, but

ey further now already had the support of

parents adof Right-wing Israelis conchild manage Jerusalem Palestinians to iques... but must help choose the leaders of the ad social conter Palestinian autonomy, Israel

s parents to have would undermine its claim to

positive fami Mr. Domb said an Arafat

istitute of Health kilometres south of Jeru-

in Bethlehem for Christmas mass, an event which attracts

tap.
ner families ned Rifkind seeks

that there is a (Continued from page 12)

ally available its a "It became clear a few d there is no dru weeks ago that Iraq had been eatment available ying to the United Nations ormal tau levels with regard to its programward Truschk nes of weapons of mass described Chicago metion" he could

of the Chicago ruction," he said.

Alzheimer: New information which

claim to the city.

salem, also weakened Israel's

Mr. Arafat plans to arrive

thousands of pilgrims from around the world each year.

3aghdad has released, in-

luding the admission that it

vas developing biological reapons for military use "on truly horrific scale," he

Mr. Rifkind said Iraq had

contemptuously ignored"

N. demands for a complete

ecounting of its weapons.

hich was a condition for

fting sanctions. "So I be-eve the situation is still very

Responding to questions ir. Rifkind called Egypt "a

merstone of the region"

hich has been using its au-

ority and influence "in a

Ty positive and stateman-

During his visit to Beirut,

said, he plans to reopen

e British Council which he

lled an important indicator

the city's return to normal-

Asked about Islamic fun-

mentalists gaining a

ehold in Britain, Mr. Rif-

nd said: "We have no diffi-

ilty with people of the Isla-

ic faith who may hold fun-

inentalist views with regard

but he said Britain would

re very strong action if

yone encourages terrorism

seeks to destabilise gov-

rious," he said.

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ffort should by some settler leaders.

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child-ream radio reports said they

ticipates in them.

of the West Bank.

practised in cer. proud of this friendship and

resumed warmth, and prob- a peace between people is the ably is as warm as it was in the past.

Q: Do you believe that there can be concrete moves from this conference to create a foundation on which a lasting peace can be built?

A: I believe that this certainly is the case, and speaking of peace and enthusiasm for it, whether it is a King's peace or a peoples peace, I think the amount of effort put into this conference by all Jordanians, by the private sector, by Jordanians everywhere, is an example of what peace means to them and what hopes they have for the future. I think that the results of the conference will come out very soon in terms of agreements, specifically reached during this period of time, and also in paving the way for much more in the

Q: I am just going to quote you for a minute. You described the race for peace, for the peace process as still a race between those who believe in life and stability and the prisoners of the past with all its horrors. What is the danger of that past still holding the peace process hos-

A: This is what we are betting against. I think we have the upper hand because we have the majority of people with us, and in any event making it

Setters squat in empty houses town. He also proposed holding vigil prayers in Beth-If Israeli troops withdraw on

In East Jerusalem, he suggested settlers disrupt campaign rallies and speeches, block cars of Palestinian voters and U.N. observers and remove campaign posters. The voting is tentatively scheduled for January.

schedule, it will be run by the one million Palestinians Palestinians for the first time

> Mr. Domb said settlers should disrupt the celebrations with a large protest at Manger Square, the centre of Christmas eve activity in the

Killing destroyed peace bid

(Continued from page 1)

nian militants.

Iran's ambassador to Syria, Mohammad Hassan Akhtari, Mr. Shallah and Hizbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah were among the tens of thousands of mourners.

'Martyrs are the favourites of God. Arafat is the enemy of God," chanted a group of youth. "Arafat, your turn will come," warned a Palesti-

(Continued from page 1)

ing that nuclear arms were not legal would not only damage the declared nuclear powers but also hit many non-nuclear nations whose security relied, under the socalled nuclear umbrella, on a policy of nuclear deterrence.

lysed by a strike called by Islamic Jihad to protest the assassination of its leader. Schools, shops and businesses were shut in the sprawling 'Ain Al Hilweh

nian woman dressed in black. Life in Lebanon's largest

Palestinian refugee was para-

shantytown after Islamic Jihad members, wearing black shirts and masks, toured the camp on motorcycles and on foot to urge resi dents to need the strike call.

business getting involved in political issues

Mr. Pellet said a court find-

"They see these (nuclear weapons) not as weapons to make war but as weapons to

ensure peace," he said. On the first day of hearings on Monday, Australia, one of the fiercest opponents of French nuclear tests, also urged the court to offer no opinion, but said that, if it did, it should declare a ban on all nuclear arms.

touching perhaps. The court's decision is expected early next year.

## King: Jordan will serve as model | Arafat:International community has a moral and political responsibility to help Palestinians

Q: When history is going to

FOLLOWING is the text of an interview that Daphne Barak, a journalist with Fox Television, had with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat last month when he was in New York attending the United Nations 50th anniversary celebrations.

QUESTION: Mr. Arafat, you are in uniform, and I was wondering why? Is the revolution still on? Are you have daughters and not sons. more comfortable with it? Are you disappointed? ANSWER: No, I am not only the president of the Palestinian National Authority, I am still the commander-in-

chief of the Palestinian army. Q: So, when are you going to feel you don't need to wear

the uniform? A: Until I am not the commander-in-chief.

Q: Many people know you but actually don't know you. For example, the last time I interviewed you, in Paris, it was 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning. I know that you are awake until 4, 5, 6 o'clock in the morning. And most of your people function at these hours, too. Why do you have this lifestyle?

A: It became a part of my life since early. I am a hard worker from the beginning of life. As an example, I'll tell you something. When I was in Kuwait, working as a civilian engineer, I had three companies — not one, three companies. Can you imagine

Q: Working 24 hours a A: Yes. So it is a part of my

Q: So actually you became used to working so hard. A: Yes. I don't know any

other way to live my life. Q: Did you try to adjust to another lifestyle, or do you just like it? A: No. I like it. Why not?

Without work, it means no-O: How many hours do you work a day? A: Between 16 and 18

Q:And how many hours do you sleep?

A: Between 5 and 6. Q: And that's enough for

A: More than enough. Sometimes I find it hard to sleep at all. Q: You are a new father. What's the most exciting ex-

perience about it, day to day?

Changing the baby? A: Actually, I adopted, before that 28 children. They are those who have lost their fathers and their mothers, and we don't know their names. So I have given them my name. And some of them have been graduated from

universities; some have been married. So I had already a Q: Still, it's a difference. right?

Yes. Something Q: You have a daughter. I know some of my best friends, although they are American and Westernised, they are very disappointed to

A: No! Q: Do you want other chil-

A: If there is an opportunity, why not? Q: Tell me something about the baby - is she beautiful? What does she know to

A: She's beautiful... Yes. I think she is...

Q: Does she resemble you? A: Yes. I prefer to have her look like her mother, as a girl. Not me... (laughs) Q: This trip to New York is very different from your last trip. You are very welcome. A: The first time, 21 years

ago, when I came to address the United Nations... Q: Under the different circumstances...

A: Yes. You remember I mentioned that I came carrying the olive branch of peace... and not to let the olive branch fall from my

Q: But this time you are really welcome. How do you feel; do you feel you have really achieved something? I mean, Fidel Castro is not invited to all kinds of events and you are to most of them?

A: It is something different. Still, Cuba is having problems with the siege. Q: You met with a lot of Jewish organisations while you were here. Did they warm up to you? Did you feel they were confrontational?

A: I think it has been fruitful. Foryourinformation, it is not the first time I have met many of them. I have met a lot of them, under different circumstances, in many places, everywhere. I have many friends among Jews, and many friends now in the Israeli peace movement.

Q: I know many people ask you who is going to succeed you. And I know it is not the right question, because you say that you believe in democracy. But how long are you going to go on with this sche-

A: Reitre?! What does this mean, retire? I can't imagine that I would retire. If I retire from my position, I would have another position.

Q: How do you relax? Do you make any time to relax? A: My relaxation is the

Q: You really love to

work? A: I can't imagine that there's life without work. Work is life. This is what I am

judge us — we're all going to be judged — how do you want to be described? As the Moses of the Palestinians who built them a home, or

A: I would like to be like Moses, but he is a prophet and I am not (laughs). I am an ordinary man. Prophets, you know, we Muslims believe that to be a real Muslim you have to be a real Jew, to be a real Christian. This is our religion. But I did bring

my people home... Q: Whenever you talk to Jews or to the Western world, we find your speeches very peaceful. But suddenly someone is bringing forth some tape that you are talking to Arabs about jihad.

A: I have heard this during this visit many times. You have to understand our terminology. There is special special - Islamic terminology. I was addressing a speech to these fanatic groups. The first time I was in Johannesburg, and some Muslims were carrying banners against the peace process. And I told them: "Are you Muslims? You are not Muslims. Real Muslims have to believe that the grand jihad is how to face life as a human — this is the grand jihad if you are a real Muslim." And to build this society and to build states. But I was shocked when they misunderstood my using of this expression and terminol-

Q: Do you feel there is any possible real dialogue mean, I can talk to you and you can talk to me — do you feel there is any real dialogue between you and these fanatics? Can you really convince them? Can you really drag them with you?

A: I am doing my best. I can't say that I can make miracles. But I am doing my

Q: It's quite tiring to face so many problems in so many areas - Hamas on one hand, Israel on the other. Are you A: No. It is difficult, and I

promised date. am passing through very difficult circumstances, and a very difficult life. But I am a strong believer — this is part of my destiny. And no one can escape from his destiny. Q: Your destiny is very

interesting, because you have escaped assassination attempts numerous times? A: I am a strong believer. I believe in God, and this is part of my destiny.

Q: Are you scared some

Q: You look so secure... Probably you are the most secure person here. A: It has become a norm of life for me. Everywhere, I am



PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat addresses the U.N. special session to mark its 50th anniversary (AFP lotoda

facing the same thing. Q: What about privacy? A: Very small space in my life for this. I am not even sure I know how to enjoy it. Q: When you were a small child, what did you want to

A: I lived a very difficult boyhood. Not to forget, since I began to understand all around me, when I was living my boyhood in Jerusalem. with my uncles, we were facing the British occupation, and directly after that the tragedy of the Palestinian people. So there was no time to have something special. Who had time for dreams.

Q: To dream? A: My belief is to have the chance for our people, for our children. To be peaceful, and remember peace...

Q: Which leads me to the last question: A Palestinian state. When are we going to have it? A: Very soon. According

to the agreement, we have signed the first stage in 1993. And now we have signed a second agreement. In between there was the Cairo agreement. And the third stage, the final stage, will start in May 1996. That is the

Q: And on this day that you have a Palestinian state, what are you personally, Yasser Arafat, going to do? and elect me, I will continue

Q: Waking up in the morning, suddenly you have a state, what is the first thing you are going to do? A: I am sure that I will have happiness. This is my main target — for our people to live freely in their free

Q: But that's what you fought your whole life for. So, let's say, on this and this date, you wake up in the

morning — you made it, you have a state. What are you going to do - sing, dance, go and eat, go to sleep, go to

A: Go to see the children of Palestine - how they will behave in their new independence and freedom. Q: Do you want to add

A: Yes... There is a moral and political responsibility for the international community. And now the time for this international community to help the Palestinians to start again building their new structures and their

Q: With money? A: Not only money. But political support, social support, financial support, moral support — all kinds of sup-

Q: What did happen at the concert in Lincoln Centre the other night? I understand, that unlike other world-wide leaders, you were asked to leave... (showing him the New York Post front page: 'Rudy Boots Arafat''? A: What does this mean,

Rudy Boots Arafat? I don't understand it ...

They came to see me in the concert. They sent me a man, saying he is the deputy of the mayor, and he said I have to leave. I told him I am not invited by you — Go to Hell. go away. Yes, I went in. It was an invitation by the United Nations. And I staved till 5 to 10, because I had an appointment here. Who is he (Rudolph Guiliani, mayor of New York ... D.B.)? Go to hell, go to hell...."

Q: Prime minister of Tur-

key promised to help your people: Did she so far? A: So far we have not received all the help we need. But I am hoping, I am hop-

## U.N. at 50 dominated by the powerful, crippled by bureaucracy and going broke

By Gwyne Dyer

BEING THE Secretary-General of the United Nations is not the world's greatest job. Dag Hammerskjold died of it, Kurt Waldheim was hounded out of it, and Javier Perez de Cuellar couldn't even win the presidency of Peru

Dying for the U.N. is an even worse idea, especially if you come from the Third World. 180 soldiers died in action in various U.N. peacekeeping missions in 1993, and the families of those who came from developed countries each got \$85,300 in compensation. But the lives of soldiers from poorer countries like India and Fiji were only worth \$19,500 each.

There, in a nutshell, is why scorn is the main public reaction as scores of world leaders gather in New York today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. To function effectively, the U.N. must take account of the world's inequalities and imperfections. But by reflecting them so faithfully, it alienates the idealists who are its natural constituency.

It is dominated by the rich

and powerful (many of

whom don't pay their

taxes). It is crippled by

bureaucracy. And it is going

"The high order of the cash shortage is unprecedented," said Secretary General Bouros Ghali two weeks ago. In recent months Boutros Ghali bas been making doubtfully legal raids on the peacekeeping budget to pay the salaries of U.N. staff, and then bridging the gap in that budget by stalling on payments owed to countries with troops on U.N. peacekeeping operations.

So most media coverage of the party on the East River will focus on the U.N.'s cash-flow crisis, the peacekeeping debacles in Somalia, Rwanda and Bosnia, and the intense hostility towards the U.N. in U.S. Congress. Journalists (closet idealists all) will draw ironic contrasts between the naive high hopes of 1945 and the sorry realities of today. But

all this misses the point. The 51 countries that founded the U.N. at the end of the World War II lived in àn exhausted, shattered world: 45 million people had died, and the first nuclear weapons were already being dropped on

cities. Hope was a desperately needed commodity, so the diplomats and politicians had to use soaring rhetoric — but they themselves were not naive. They had seen most of

their friends killed in the

trenches of the World War I. They had watched the League of Nations, invented to stop that tragedy from recurring, fall to pieces in the 30s. And they were just emerging from the most terrible war of history. They had few illusions, but they knew they had to try once more to change the international system. Miraculously, they suc-

ceeded. The simple principle that no change of borders by the use of force will be accepted by the international community, no matter what the justification, has stood for half a century. Fifty years on, there has

been no World War III, no hundreds of millions of dead. Indeed, there have been no wars at all between industrialised countries for half a century. As a result the whole post-1945 era, despite huge population growth, decolonisation, and 130 new countries, accounts for less than a third of the 20th century's war dead.

In terms of what it was originally meant to do --prevent world wars, and make smaller acts of international aggression more trouble than they were worth — the United Nations has been a brilliant success. Only twice has there been international mobilisation to roll back open cross-border aggression, in Korea in 1950 and in Kuwait in

1990. But other border ment agreements, and free changes achieved by force are never recognised.

Twenty years after the Indonesia army rolled in and annexed East Timor, the U.N. still does not recognise its annexation. Nobody ever recognised the borders of 'Greater Israel', carved out in the 1967 war, and Israel is withdrawing by stages back to the internationally recognised 1948 frontier. However, the U.N. was

never designed to deal with internal wars, which are now far more prevalent, and it has recently suffered several spectacular failures in that domain: Somalia, Rwanda, Bosnia. Anti-U.N. feeling has grown so acute in the United States that Congress · railaterally slashed U.S. centributions to the U.N. peacekeeping budget earlier this year.

This, combined with the existing \$3.2 backlog of U.N. dues (for unpaid which the U.S. also accounts for a third), has turned a cash-flow problem into a crisis. But the crisis is transitory.

The huge surge in peacekeeping operations of the early 90s will soon be past. The end of the cold war suddenly made it possible to wind up may long-running internal wars in the Third World, and the result was a burst of big U.N. operations to oversee truces, disarmaelections.

Many of them were very successful: Namibia, El Salvador, Mozambique, Nicaragua, and Cambodia, for example. But operations of this sort are now rapidly winding down, ad the dramatic failures in Somalia and Rwanda have left little will to take on new ones. Bosnia is being sub-contracted to NATO, and by the end of 1996 the U.N. will have only one-quarter of its present total of peacekeeping troops in the field. End of budget crisis.

The U.N. is unlovable, but its role in preventing major war and discouraging open aggression remains vital. And over the years it has evolved a new role that may be equally important.

Until this century, gatherings where all the countries of the world were present were very rare events. The permanent political marketplace that has sprung up by the East River is the necessary counterpart to a global economy and to the cultural phenomenon known as the 'global village'. If it didn't already exist, governments would be scrambling to invent it.

The writer is a Londonbased journalist. He contributed the above article to the Jordan Times.



;DCS

DGE

going into the foodstuffs trade," he told Reuters.

But Zoheir Ali Kadhem,

with a portfolio worth five million dinars (\$2,000), said

shares he bought at 0.25 di-

nars in 1993 were now worth

18 dinars so he planned to

keep playing the market.

Over the same period, food

prices haven risen about 20

settled down, prices would go

up. I just hope the future will

said he came every session,

shuffling a portfolio with shares in about 18 com-

panies. "Today I'm buying

shares in the Iraqi Seed Pro-

duction Company. They're very low and I'll sell them

when they go up," he said.
The exchange does not

produce an index but a ran-

dom selection of shares

showed that prices had risen

between four and eight fold since the end of 1993. Data

on free share issues for these

companies were not readily

The investors dismissed in-

vesting in real estate because

at least in the capital there

The government, anxious

to reduce the population

pressure on the capital, has

banned property sales to peo-

ple not registered in Baghdad in the 1957 census.

tions lift sanctions.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

WHAT THE DEFENSIVE LINE-MEN CONSIDERED THE QUARTERBACK.

Now arrange the circled letters to

form the surprise answer, as sug-gested by the above cartoon

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirlor

are bureaucratic restraints.

be good," he said.

"If the political situation

Noel Gewargis Antoun

times over.

available.

## Tourism seen as first fruit of Amman Summit

By George Hishmeh USIA Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The first fruit of the Amman Economic Summit — a regional tourism association - has been launched here with the hope of transforming the region into "the next global super destination," according to a fact sheet announcing the Middle East/Mediterranean Travel and Tourism Association (MEMTTA).

Key parties in the Middle East peace process, as well as Morocco, Tunisia, Cyprus and Turkey, signed on Oct. 30 a 14-article charter at the Amman conference establishing MEMTTA. The core signatories were the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Egypt, and Israel.

This new institution is one of three called for by the first Middle East/North Africa Economic Summit in Casablanca last November. The others are the Regional Business Council and the Middle East Development Bank.

Its charter was developed under the auspices of the Regional Economic Development Working Group (REDWG) of the multilateràl Middle Éast peace process.

Estimates are that this region's gross output in travel and tourism will reach \$78,800 million this year and is expected to increase at over four times the world average rate in the next 10-15 million, according to a just-released brochure published by MEMTTA with the support of the American Express

According to the brochure, the tourism industry, which some see as "the biggest beneficiary of peace," is also expected to generate an esti-mated \$19,000 million of investments in infrastructure, plant and capital equipment, representing 8.7 per cent of total capital investment in the region. This means "enormous opportunities" for investments in hotels, transport, entertainment and the restaurant business.

State Department senior attorney/adviser David Abramowitz, who represented the United States at the meetings held here, said the United States would be providing technical assistance to help create the organisation and its U.S. chapter. The organisation will have both regional and extra-regional di-

MEMTTA is a new kind of public-private partnership in that it unites governments and the private sector in a common effort to facilitate visits across borders for business and pleasure. The gov-ernments constitute MEMT-TA's policy making body while the private sector manages the organisation's activi-

A key principle of MEMT-

portance of achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East and of supporting the peace process. Another is the recognition that travel and tourism will play an important role in deepening cooperation and mutual understanding in the

Its objective is to facilitate regional cooperation among the signatories in order to promote and market the region as a tourism destination.

The organisation, which will be financed through membership subscriptions and annual dues, will primarily seek to harmonise laws, regulations and standards affecting tourism. It will also provide education and training; establish a data bank on travel trends; and carry out destination marketing activities, primarily to en-courage transactions through computerised reservation sys-

Membership in MEMTTA is now open to all countries in the Middle East, Eastern Mediterranean, North Africa and the Gulf states. Tourism ministries of the founding nations can be contacted for those interested in mem-

No place is the potential of tourism more evident than in Jordan, and especially in Amman, where travellers are

## Baghdad punters try to beat the odds at stock exchange

BAGHDAD (R) - Like . punters at a race track, hundreds of Iraqis spend Saturday and Tuesday morning down at the stock exchange. studying form and passing written orders to their brokers by holding them against the glass partition.

According to published fi-

gures from the Jordanian

Ministry of Tourism, arrivals

during the first six months of

this year have increased by 40

per cent over the same period

last year. North American

tourists recorded the biggest increase, from 27,338 to

49,719, an 81 per cent jump.

Earnings from tourism in

Jordan amounted to 10 per

cent of the gross domestic product in 1994 and are ex-

pected to increase with the

influx of visitors interested in

making other stops in the

region. The number of hotel

rooms will reportedly reach 10,000 by the end of 1996, an

increase from 6,900 at pre-

Petra, the Nabatean city

carved out of rose red sand-

stone, will have six new hotels,

more than doubling its room

from the present 840. In amman,

eight three-star hotels are

under construction and four

five-star hotels — a Hyatt,

Holiday Inn, a Sheraton and

Hilton — are under construc-

tion. This will greatly increase the city's 100 five-star hotel

Other tourism projects abound in Aqaba, the Dead

Sea area and the joint Israeli-

Jordanian development of

economy come back. We

have seen the exports come

back. We think we will have

very strong export growth

over the next 12 months. We

will have good capital spending growth," said Scotiame-

leod economist Michael Man-

European tourists here in-

creased by 57 per cent.

The scene is a surprise, given the stagnation of the economy and the widespread belief among ordinary Iraqis that the stock exchange is deserted.

The volume of trade may be peanuts by international standards, at about 100 mil-lion dinars (\$40,000) a session, but for Iraqis impoverished by sanctions it is one of the few legal outlets for speculative investment.

Prices have fallen behind hyperinflation, now running. at almost 400 per cent a year, but the return is certainly better than at the banks, which offers 20 per cent on

Brokers say shareholders willing to wait could also reap a small fortune when the United Nations calls off sanctions and business activity recovers to pre-war levels.

"Prices are very cheap. Take the Basra Sheraton, for example, its shares now have a market price of about 840 million dinars (\$340,000) but the hotel is worth many millions of dollars," said one broker, who declined to be

"In some cases, you can buy these companies at a tiny fraction of the value of their real assets," said another.

"People who had dollars are buying these shares for next to nothing and one day they'll make a packet," he

Some industrial companies may even have benefitted from the sanctions, which have eliminated the competition from imports, and these are the shares most in demand on the market.

All 76 companies listed on the exchange have regularly reported profits, despite chronic problems finding raw materials and spare parts for machinery.

"We have a rule that once a company makes a loss, it loses its listing. That hasn't happened to a single company since the exchange opened in 1992," said Sabih Al Dulaimi, general manager of the exchange and former head of a state bank.

"There's a lot of liquidity around so that's why there's such demand for shares, as you can see," he added, nodding towards the crowds pressing at the window of the

trading ring.

Taha Ahmad of the exchange's research department said what interested investors most was not the cash dividends, which are insignificant, but the distribution of profits through free share ssues to increase capital and keep up with inflation.

The free-market value of the Iraqi dinar against the dollar also weighs on the market. When the dollar rate goes up, the demand for shares goes down, Mr. Ahmad said.

The investors, many of them middle-class Iraqis who have seen inflation rapidly erode the value of their life savings, said they had mixed feelings about the market.

On Tuesday morning this week, Ali Ahmad was trying to liquidate his holdings, worth about 250,000 dinars (\$100), in the belief that he could make more money elsewbere.

"Share prices just don't keep up with inflation so I'm

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles.

one letter to each square, to form

lour ordinary words.

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VORLE

YIFNER

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Print answer here :

HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1995 y Lamia Laho

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Reforms have often

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ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can handle that practical very well at this time, so get right at it, and it will soon be behind you for another time.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Don't permit a determined person to dissuade you from a course of action which you believe in. Show that you have

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21)
Forget worries and be out in the busy world of activity and make the contacts which you like and get good results for you to be

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Get busy on property affairs and repairs today, espe-cially since this is not a good day for pleasure or there could be problems.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Home conditions are not to your liking, so get out and be with persons you like, and be happy. Don't be forceful about gaining

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Use tact where communications are concerned and confer with others courteously, then you get good results for you

LIBRA: (September 23 to Octoher 22) Postpone handling financial and other practical affairs which could give you many prob-lems at this time. Be with good

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You feel stale-mated in several interests today, so place your energies in different channels. Be tactful about suggestions for a good friend, SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Forget that secret concern and get into activities which are profitable and pleasant to handle for you to be very successful and content.

For the moment, only Iraqis can buy the shares but Mr. Dulaimi said that could CAPRICORN: (December 22 to change when the United Na-January 20) Avoid that friend who feels put upon and save yourself some complications. "For that, we depend on the policy of the state ... and Handle business affairs wisely today and you will be successful. as President Saddam Hussein

said in his speech last week. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to the state is committed to February 19) Avoid the public today since others would try to promoting the private secdowngrade you in some way, keep close to a partner who understands you.

> PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Don't jamp into new in terests which you know little your budget.

Birthstone of November: Topic — Tiger's Eye

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY,

ARIJES: (March 21 to April 19) Plan that trip to uncover whatever it is which puzzles you. Listen carefuly and follow the best of these and you will get ahead.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Your hunches are good where finances are concerned today so follow them. Reach your goals with ease so that you can meet your desires.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Pursue that individual that morning who can assist you to com-mercialise on your talents. In the evening tonight, confide in you

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Get right at career acti-vities early this morning and you can accomplish a great deal to-day. Come to a better under-

standing with fellow associates LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Make the appointments with congenial friends for the amuse ments you want to enjoy later today. Make real progress with your talent.

VIRGO: (August 22 to Septem ber 22) Get the okay at home ties before you make certain im-provements at home today which you have in mind for you to enjoy yourself with loved ones. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Although you like to weigh and balance everything before proceeding with a new project, it is better to carry through quickly today.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Plan just how to profit the most and put such a plan today, however intricate, to work quickly. Listen carefully to what you hear.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You can hit the mark today in whatever is most important to you and can be very articulate in discussions with in-dividuals in charge.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Either be with an advisor or by yourself and plan the future very carefully at this time. Later, tonight be with the one you love for a pleasurable evening.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) This is a good day to be your gregarious self and see as many good friends and acquaintances as you can for a good time at this time.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This is a good day to see influential persons and gain their support for new projects at this time. Obey every rule and regulation which applies to you.

Tiger's Eye

#### the "lowest park on earth" struck by the growing numalong the southern shores of TA, according to the charter, ber of hotels and furnished is the recognition of the im-Cloud over Canada's economy

lifts after Quebec vote

OTTAWA (R) — Canada's economy got an immediate boost from the defeat of separatists in Quebec's referendum as a cloud of uncertainty lifted and interest rates began to fall, economists said Tuesday.

"From here on Canada starts to get some of the payoff," said Scotiantcleod Inc. chief economist Michael Manford.

Canadians have held a tight clamp on their wallets in recent months, partly bependence referendum would disrupt the national eco-

Although Canadian unity forces won Monday's vote only by a tiny 50.6 per cent majority, it was enough to rally anxious financial mar-

The Canadian dollar rose sharply and both and long term interest rates tumbled. Economists said the vote against separation meant lower interest rates, which

could spur economic growth. "I am still optimistic that short-term interest rates can go below those in the United States, which I think gives a much needed shot in the armto the domestic economy," said Citibank economist

Canada's key three-month interest rate was still trading on Tuesday at 1.5 percentage points above the equivalent U.S. rate.

Moreover, growth that had stumbled badly at the beginning of the year has started to recover. Economists say the trend will continue and be given a boost by the lower

"Growth is picking up. The U.S. economy has snapped back and that will pull us

along. Interest rates have come down," said Royal Bank of Canada economist John Johnston. "We think that Canadian

growth will accelerate to around three per cent later this year, and hold there in 1996, with low inflation," he In the second quarter of

1995, the gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.0 per cent and there were fears that the economy could slip into recession. This followed a boom year in 1994 when th Canadian economy grew faster than any other Group of Seven industrial country at 4.6 per cent.

Canada's economy is highdependent on exports to the United States and better growth there will help expor-

"We are seeing the U.S



your parents loan us a stamp.

# "I wrote to my parents to borrow money...but I can't mail it until

# THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen

5 She wrote "The Beli Jar 10 Ali — 14 Malevolent Moor 15 Gene Tierney 16 Algerian port

1 Ado

17 Slight

18 Early fur trader 19 Libertine 20 Start of a quip 23 Charged atom 24 Heavy reading? 25 Slightly angry 29 Advertising

32 Highly excited 33 Second First Lady's nickname? 36 Old French coin

38 More of the quip 42 "Exodus" name 43 Biblical spy 44 Penpoints 45 Up and about

47 Endangered receptacle? 50 Tense 52 Rowing need 53 End of the quip

62 Put on 63 Put away for later 64 Funny Jay

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65 Seamstress 66 Pare 67 Kind of shark 68 Double curves

69 Alone DOWN 1 Boxer's

weapon 2 French composes 3 Chills and fever 4 Oalmeal dish, in England

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8 Speckled or

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Yesterday's puzzle solved:

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Jumbles: SOAPY MUSIC BASKET GENTLE

The beauty student needed this when she

missed the exam - A MAKE UP TEST

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Birthstone of November: Topaz

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**IBER 3, 1995** 

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## Jordanian investors give territories a boost

By Lamia Lahoud

A GROUP of Palestinian and Arab investors in Ramallah elected a board of directors for the Islamic bank in Gaza and the territories this

Elected chairman of the board was the group's leader, Taufik Fakhouri, a Palestinian businessman from Jor-

He is the chairman of the Bank of Jordan, a commercial bank which was one of the first foreign banks to open branches in the territories and the autonomy after the Gaza-Jericho first accord.

The Islamic bank will observe, like similar banks in Arab states, the Islamic religious ruling which forbids the charging of interest or the paying the interest on bank

Mr. Fakhouri said many religious Palestinians now deposit their money in commercial banks without taking the usual interest payable. They also do not accept

loans, since they would have to pay interest to the bank. There is therefore a need for Islamic banking so that observant Muslims have a service which works the reli-

gious way, he said.

"Besides," Mr. Fakhouri added, "it's good business." In Amman, the Jordan Islamic Bank has become the second largest bank in the country with \$1.5 billion in deposits, said Yahya Kadamani, vice chairman of the new Islamic Bank and of the Bank of Jordan.

Mr. Kadamani said Mr. Fakhouri had been given Yasser Arafat's go-ahead to set up the bank several months ago, when Mr. Arafat and King Hussein met Palestinian and Jordanian

businessmen in Amman.

"So far, the Palestinian Islamic Bank has some 2,000 shareholders — mainly Palestinian businessmen from Jordan, but also some locals, along with Jordanian and

Gulf investors. The bank's starting capital is \$22 million, Mr. Kadamani said. The first branch will open in Gaza in Jan. I, with others following in Jenin,

Nablus, Ramallah and Heb-

Mr. Fakhouri and his group of investors are also investing in an industrial park along the green line in Jenin. They have put up \$50 million and Mr. Fakhouri has bought 500 dunums (2,000 acres) in

He promoted the project at the Amman economic conference and lobbied for international donors to start joint ventures with Palestinian investors.

Mr. Fakhouri said he had received the OK from Israel

firm ISO Quality Assurance Register (QAR) to be

awarded an ISO 9002 certifi-

Abu Ghosh, the financial manager of ASPM, the com-

pany initiated its programme

to win the quality standard

certificate nine months ago,

and upon the ISOQAR re-

commendation, ASPM is ex-

pected to be awarded the ISO

9002 certificate in late

ISO 9002 is one of the ISO

9000 series standards that in-

clude 9001, 9002, 9003, and

9004, which cover fun-

damental elements or re-

quirements of quality man-

agement systems, each of

them applicable to a specific

situation of a supplier orga-

nisation, according to the

complexity of the organisa-

tion, or the requirements of

the purchaser, according to

the introductory standard

November this year.

According to Abdullah

and the Palestinian Authority for the industrial park, and the World Bank will offer low interest loans to interested

Mr. Fakhouri has several factories in Jordan, and hopes to open several in the Jenin industrial park.

They would produce alu-

minium, cigarettes, tiles, kitchen cabinets and sweets. The Israeli Civil Administration in the Jenin are agreed to invest NIS 30 million to finance the installation

and sewage, Mr. Fakhouri said. Mr. Kadamani said Jenin is a good site for an industrial park since it is a short drive from both Haifa port, which is a doorway to the European market, and from the King

of electricity, telephone lines

the Arab states are accessi-

Palestinian businessmen

ISO 9000 of the Geneva-

based International Trade

Centre (ITC) of the United

ASPM is expected to win

the ISO 9002 quality certifi-

cate which deals with quality

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According to the introduc-

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ITĆ, "ISO 9002 standards

are applicable in situations

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stration of a supplier's capa-

bilities in production, in-

HRH Crown Prince Has-

san Tuesday urged all Jorda-

nian companies to adopt ISO

9000 standards in order "to

be accredited international

qualitative recognition in our

export-oriented efforts" in an

ever competitive internation-

stallation and servicing.'

stallation and servicing.

Nations

from Jordan are the biggest investors in the Palestinian private sector and have been the first to profit from the Israel-Jordan peace treaty and the autonomy agreement.

Mr. Kadamani said they have the blessing of King Hussein and Mr. Arafat to go ahead and the capital to do

The autonomous areas are virgin opportunities with low risk. Few local businessmen have the capital, so their compatriots from Jordan are moving into the private sector, although some are looking for joint ventures with

"We promise we will invest and build a modern Palestinian state with a modern free-market economy," Mr. Kadamani said. "In a few years Gaza and the West Bank will look entirely diffe-

Jordan is now on the verge

of being accepted in the

World Trade Organisation,

and has introduced many

laws and by-laws to meet the

international body's stan-

dards, according to Trade

and Industry Minister Ali

The ITC reported that over

62 countries worldwide have

adopted the ISO 9000 stan-

dards as national standards

by mid-1994, and that 70,517

certificates were issued in 76

According to ITC, 36 com-

panies in the UAE, 30 in

Saudi Arabia, 9 in Egypt, 2 in

Oman, 1 in Qatar, 106 in

Turkey, 90 in Greece, 5 in

Cyprus, and 253 in Israel

were awarded at least one

certificate of the ISO 9000

series since the Geneva-

based International Standar-

disation Organisation put the

standards of quality in 1979.

countries and territories.

## Hussein bridge, from which

al market.

Abul Ragheb.

rent." — Jerusalem Post.

## A review of news from the Arabic press

## 100,000 tonnes of Jordanian cement

present order (Al Aswaq).

## Palestinian company to import IFC to finance two projects

\*\* THE INTERNATIONAL Finance Corporation (IFC) has agreed to finance two \*\* A PALESTINIAN private shareholding main projects undertaken by the Zara Tourcompany affiliated to the Palestinian National ism Investments Company. The first is a \$25 Authority has received a preliminary agree- million project at the Dead Sea and the ment with the Jordan Cement Factories Com- second is the Hyatt-Amman Hotel and the pany to import 100,000 tonnes of cement. The adjacent commercial centre at an approxi-Palestinian company will be importing addi-mate cost of \$75 million. IFC experts are due nional amounts upon the consumption of the in Amman later this month to put a financing mechanism for the projects (Al Aswaq).

#### . ADDIEN FINANCIAL MARKET . MONELEC MAR CONTR NOW - 180275ANI TELEPHONI 607171 / 607179 CREANIZED MONTET NAME PRICE LIST FOR MEDISTRAY 01/ PREV. CLOSING JORDAN BATTUROL BANK BARE OF JORGAN MIDDLE RACT INVESTMENT BANK HISDLE RACT INVESTMENT BANK HIS BOUSTAN BANK JORDAN BANK JORDAN GELF BANK JORDAN GELF BANK JORDAN INVESTMENT L PYRANCE BANK ANNAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT 3350 180 1000 2250 51000 25075 646 2213 5412 224400 3176 18927 4708 13990 24693 39689 4.500 3.650 1.210 2.410 4.450 2.850 1.140 3.680 3.720 1.010 1.630 4.500 J.620 1.210 2.410 4.400 2.820 1.150 3.670 3./30 1.020 1.630 1.630 180EX MUNICA: 197.02 1 -0.11 PARES SECTO 129302 3567R2 JORDAN PRESCR INSURANCE 2.710 2.640 450 121) 450 INSURANCE SECTOR INDEX NUMBER: 129.75 CHANGE : -3.134 3333 CORMANIAN ELECTRIC POMER MATIONAL PORTFULIO SECURITIES MARIA INTER. FOR LEVESTREST & EDUCATION LANGA PRIVATE LEVESTREST COLF. 12250 1290 1600 2000 3500 1.660 2.040 3.310 1.330 20550 SERVICES SECTOR J4516 IMDEX KOMBER: 127.89 Charge : -0.087 ATTANCEEP CONST. MALERIAL MARIEFACTURING THE JORGAS COMENT FACTORIES THE AREA POTTAGE INCREME PETROLETH REFINARY THE HOUSTERN. CONSERVER. & AGRICULTURAL RAND PHASMACKUTICAL NAMEPACTURING JORGAN PAPES HAMBYACTURING SPINNING & HEAVING ARAS ALUMINIUM TRUBETRY LIVESTICK & POULTRY ARAS PAPER CONTENTIAG & TRADING RETIGHER IMMESTRALES ARAN PAPER CONTENTING & TRADING MATICAL INDUSTRIES INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CEROCOAL INDUSTRIES JOSCAM SOCIMOCA PETRO-CEROCOAL SOCIATED JOSCAM STEPSO-CEROCOALS & CHICALS PARENCE INVESTRE TO PRINTE, & CHICALS PARENCE INVESTRE INVESTRE INVESTRE INFORMATIONAL INDUSTRIES OF AN ANY OFFICE OF ANY OFFICE OF ANY OFFICE OF ANY OFFICE OFF 3.14U 1.96D 1.550 1.66D 2.04G INDEX NUMBER: 124.74 INDUSTRIAL SECTOR 681269 CHANCE : -0.09 GRAND TOTAL

## Arabian Steel Pipes likely to get ISO 9002 certificate

By Khattab Salman Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - In their preparations to enter a competitive internatio al market, Jordanian export-oriented companies are racing to meet quality standards put by the

International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO). In that regard, the Arabian Steel Pipes Manufacturing Company (ASPM) was recommended by the British

## Widening income gap sparks alarm in China

BEIJING (AFP) - The sharply widening income gap between China's urban rich and poor is sparking alarm in official circles, with many blaming exploitation of loopholes in the semireformed economy for the trend.

An article in the latest edition of the influential Outlook Weekly magazine quoted experts and officials as criticising many of the country's "newly rich" for obtaining their wealth through unfair or even illegal

China, despite maintaining a communist government, has during 15 years of reform been transformed from a centrally planned state into, an economy that resembles capitalism - poorly regulated in certain key areas - more

closely than socialism. Reforms have often abo-

Markets

Certescy

Sterling Pound

Doutsche Mark

Swiss Franc

French Pronc

Japanese Yen

U.S. Dollar

Starting Pound

Doutsche Mark

Swist Franc

French Franc

Japanese Yen

Beropean Carreny Unit

USD Per STG " European Opening & Late man. GMT

lished old structures without immediately setting up new

ones to take their place, leav-

tunate majority of a social welfare net. Outlook cited State Statistical Bureau figures as showing that at least five million families, or two per cent of

one million vuan. cent of city dwellers were living below the urban poverty line of 160 yuan a month in 1994, it said, adding that the

Tokyo CEose

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Date: 1/11/1995

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spectrum, at least five per

ing abundant opportunities for an entrepreneurial minority to "get rich quick," while robbing many in the less for-

the national total, had annual incomes exceeding 50,000 yuan (\$6,000), while the yearly income of at least one million households exceeds At the other end of the

gap between rich and poor was widening.

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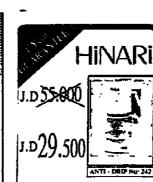
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Ardiles

sacked

MEXICO CITY (R) -

Argentine coach Osvaldo

Ardiles was sacked by Mex-

ican first division side Guada

lajara on Tuesday, exactly a year to the day after being sacked by English Premier League club Tottenham.

Ardiles, who was dismisse

by Tottenham on October 3

last year, will be replaced by former Dutch World Cup

coach Leo Beenhakker.

spokesman for the Guadala

jara club said on Tuesday.

aware that our aim was w

have an attacking team that

was exciting to watch and won points," said club presi-

dent Salvador Martinez, re-

ferring to the team's disappointing results.
"As this was not happen

ing, we had a chat and de cided it was best that he

Ardiles admitted that h

was to blame for the result

but also criticised the players

He was in charge for only 10

tudes in this team which i

and which seemed unprofes

sional, such as wanting a

start training at ten in the morning or faking injuries because they didn't want m

play," he said. Guadalajara, who tradi

tionally use only Mexica

players in a competition

where up to five foreigner

can be fielded by a team, an

bottom of their five ten

group with just two wins i

ten matches. They had lo

Beenhakker, who coach

the Netherlands in the 199

world cup, will return t

Mexican soccer less than or

year after being sacked by

America in mysterious di

cumstances
America had dazzled fans
with a campaign in which
they scored 78 goals when
Bennhakker, who has also
coached Dutch club Ajaz.
Spanish Giants Real Madrid
and the Saudi Arabian
pational team during his

national team during his travels, who told to leave.

America subsequently faltered and were knocked displayed.

in the semi-finals but eventual runners-up Cruz Azul

Turkish first division sid

summoned

PARIS (AP) — The Toyota

team has been summoned to

meet Friday with FIA offi

cials to explain the illegaturbochargers found on two

of their cars in last week

The two cars, driven by defending world champion Didier Auriol and Juhi

Kankkunen, were disqua

ified when turbochargers did

not conform to International

Automobile Federation stan

dards, a FIA spokesman sav

"After examining the de-tailed reports, the FIA form

the reasons for the cars' ex

summon the team to give more information," he said He did not specify who sanctions, if any, would be

brought against the two dri

clusion serious enough

Toyota

by FIA

Catalunya Rally.

Tuesday.

The Dutchman's most re

cumstances

their last two games.

"There were certain atti

leave.

matches.

"Both we and Ardiles were

again

PARIS (AFP) - Threetimes champion Boris Becker and fourth-seeded Michael Chang were both given a fright at the Paris Indoor Open on Tuesday. But Wayne Ferreira at last beat a four-year losing jinx.

Both Becker and Chang dropped the first sets of their opening matches in the \$2.25 million tournament while a nervous Ferreira edged past Richey Reneberg of the Un-ited States — his first-ever success in the tournament after falling at the first hurdle for the past four years.

Becker, who only decided

to play in this tournament after a strenuous work-out to test his injured back at the weekend, survived a series of crises against Russian Alexander Volkov.

The 1986, 1989, 1992 champion, still bidding to qualify for the season-ending ATP Championship finals in Frankfurt, dropped the first set and then squandered a service break while leading 4-2 in the third before finally chalking up a 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 win in one and three-quarter

"It's always tough playing in the first round of any tournament," he said after his tenth career victory in as many matches against the Russian left-hander.

"But I am pleased with the way I played," he went on, adding with a grin: "And I am hoping for great things here this week. After all — I have won this tournament three times and my victories come every third year... and my last victory was in 1992."

Becker now faces bigserving 14th seed Todd Martin of the United States for a place in the quarter-finals. Martin earlier proved far too powerful for plucky Dutch qualifier Henrik Jan Davids and he cruised home to a comfortable 6-3, 6-4 win.

Chang, who unlike Becker is already assured of his place at the ATP finals, was given a tougher-than-expected work-out by Zimbabwe's Byron Black.

The 23-year-old Chinese-American, twice a semifinalist, came under early pressure and dropped the first set against determined Byron. Black of Zimbabwe. But Chang's much-improved service, .once considered the weakest part of his game.

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Michael Chang

came to his rescue. He hit 14 aces, many on crucial points. in a 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 victory.

'It's nice to be able to throw in some big serves but you can't take anything away from Byron," said away from Byron," said Chang after his win. "He won that first set."

Chinese community in the French capital, Chang said:

back happy memories of

when I won the French title

Chang, winner of four

events this season was clearly

unsettled by Black's early

speed and accuracy.
The 26-year-old Zimbab-

wean, although better known

as a doubles player, has been

enjoying a remarkable singles

Opening lead: Seven of O

The hidding and play of this hand were far from perfect. Follow what happened and then decide who are and allows.

the equivalent of a no-trump open-ing hid. North forced to game with three spades and passed when per-ner's three-no-trump rebid denied

west sea a transmit, and basts king lost to the ace. A spade in the queen was allowed to hold. Declarer returned to hand with the king of

erred and where.
South's no-trump overcall show

at Roland Garros."

**GOREN BRIDGE** 

WHO'S AT FAULT?

Washington went the dis-**PARIS OPEN** tance on one of the adjoining courts before scoring a 4-6. 6-4, 6-2 in his first-round Referring to the showdown with Todd Woodbridge of Australia. tremendous support he always receives from the

season this year rising to 35th

in the rankings and reaching

the quarter-finals at the Un-

Chang, the 1989 French

Open champion, now plays

either thirteenth-seed Andrei

Medvedev of the Ukraine or

last weekend's Essen finalist MaliVai Washington of the

ited States Open.

United States.

Ninth-seeded Ferreira finally overcame his losing streak — although at times he looked as though he was ab-out to fall at the first hurdle "It's tremendous. I always like playing in Paris. It brings for the fifth time in a row.

> The 24-year-old Ferreira. winner at both Ostrava and Lyon earlier this month, dropped the second set despite holding a match point at

But when he had overcome the initial frustration of

clubs and led another spade. This time East captured the king with the ace and returned a diamond. There was only one entry to dummy with which to set up and run

spades, and two were necessary. Declarer could make only eight

Declarer could make only eight tricks.

First, let's congratulate East on fine defense, Had East won the first spade, declarer would have had no trouble fulfilling the contract. Try it if you don't believe us.

The first error was North's in the bidding. With a good six-card major, North should have wanted to play four spades and nothing else, so the correct action would have been to jump to four spades.

Next, declarer made a subtle error which sllowed East to play a starring role. Since South could afford to give up the lead twice more. South should have ducked a spade at trick two, furting East to win that trick. Next a spade is led to the queen, and the suit can be established while there is still a heart entry in dummy.

seeing Reneberg get back on

level terms at one set all, he settled down and finished strongly for a 6-2, 5-7, 6-4

For a player who spends most of his spare time in the French capital where he has bought an appartment, the victory was particularly sweet and Ferreira remained confident that now that he has beaten the jinx --- he will win

In the next round he faces either eighth-seeded Spaniard Sergi Bruguera or Henri Leconte of France. Left-handed veteran Guy

Forget triumphed in the all-French confrontation with promising newcomer Jerome Golmard - winning in three sets although he was helped when his opponent sustained a groin injury midway through the match.

Another Frenchman, Cedric Pioline, a former United States Open finalist who has never won a tournament, outplayed Sweden's Magnus Gustaffson. Gustaffson, who was playing under a pro-

BONN (R) — Parma's remarkable run of success in

Europe in the last few sea-

sons is in serious danger of.

coming to an end at the hands

of unglamorous Swedes

Halmstad in the Cup Winners

Cup second legs on Thurs-

The Italians, who won the

trophy in 1993, were runners

up in 1994 and triumphed in

the UEFA Cup last season.

need to overturn a 3-0 defeat

from the first leg in Gothen-

Swedes could end

Parma's European run

tected ranking after a long lay-off because of a serious shoulder injury, took a 2-0 lead but then faded.

Jan Siemerink, the 16th seeded Dutch player, won a dramatic outside court confrontation with American David Wheaton 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (7-4) to reach the third round while his compatriot Jacco Eltingh snatched a thrilling first-round 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 . (7-2) victory over Brett Steven of New Zealand.

The victory put Eltingh into a second-round match against sixth-seed Jim ourier on Wednesday.

Frenchman Arnaud Boetsch, who has climbed in the top-20 rankings after his victory in Toulouse and semifinal berth in Essen, earned a crack at top-seed Pete Sampras when he defeated Jonas Bkorkman of Sweden 6-2,

Meanwhile, another home olayer, Guillaume Raoux, beat Uzbekistan qualifier Oleg Ogorodov 6-4, 6-3.

Parma, who are level on points with AC Milan at the

top of the Italian division.

will risk all with a three-man

attack of Bulgarian Hristo

Stoichkov, Gianfranco Zola

After victories over some

of Europe's most glamorous

clubs in recent seasons, such

as Juventus, Atletico Madrid,

Aiax Amsterdam and Benfi-

ca, there would be a certain

amount of irony in Parma

going out to the little-known Swedes.

and Alessandro Melli.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

## Egyptian community club hosts chess tourney

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Egyptian Community club is currently hosting the 2nd Pharoah's Chess Tournament in cooperation with the Royal Chess Federation (RCF) On the opening day, Talbieh Club beat Al Wihdat's team 3-1 while the RCF team beat the hosts 2.5/1.5.

## Row over sacked coach continues

ACCRA (AFP) — Ivorian coach Boubakar Ouatara has refused to return as coach of Ghana's Ashanti Kotoko and has accused the team's management of forging a letter to the International Football Federation (FIFA). Ouatara, whose three-year contract was terminated in May, told Sports World he had not written the letter which Ashanti claimed he had sent saying he had reached an agreement with the club. FIFA had threatened Ashanti with demotion unless they paid the \$6,300 Quatara claimed he was owed. FIFA were, in any case, suspicious of the letter because it was written in English whereas all previous correspondence from the coach had been in French, Quatara told the paper. Although the debt had now been settled, Quatara said he would not go back until a proper management was installed. The team is currently being coached by former captain Kwasi Appiah.

## 'Torre may be hired as Yankee manager'

NEW YORK (AP) — Joe Torre may be the only candidate to become manager of the New York Yankees and could be hired within days, the New York Times reported Tuesday. The newspaper, citing an unidentified team executive, said Torre needs only to meet with newly appointed general manager Bob Watson. "Watson might have a candidate or two he wants to talk to, but I don't know who they could be," the executive said. "Torre is the guy. It should happen in a day or two." Watson is still attending the details of his departure last week as general manager of the Houston Astros. Other names mentioned in connection with the managing job are Yankees third base coach Willie Ran-dolph, St. Louis hitting instructor Chris Chambliss and former Detroit manager Sparky Anderson.

### Arsenal admit Ince rejection

LONDON (AFP) - Arsenal admitted on Tuesday that Inter Milan had rejected their advances for England midfielder Paul Ince. A formal statement was issued from Highbury by managing director Ken Friar following reports that the Gunners were on the brink of completing a 6.5 million pound deal with the Italian club. "Arsenal can confirm that we have been in discussions with Inter Milan regarding Paul Ince but have been advised by Intar that they are not prepared to transfer the player at this time," the statement said.

### Tour of China ends 3rd stage

BEIJING (AP) - Belgium's Jo Planckaert outsprinted Latvian Arvis Piziks and American Fred Rodriguez to win the third stage of the inaugural Tour of China cycling race. Planckaert completed Tuesday's 70-kilometre (43.4-mile) race, is Shanghai, in one hour. 32 minutes, 35 seconds. American Steve Hegg remained the overall race leader, three seconds ahead of Italy's Daniele Nardello. Tuesday's race was contested on a 3.5-kilometre (2.17-mile) circuit through the crowded streets of China's largest city. Planckaert notched his 13th professional victory by passing Piziks in a strong headwind with 50 metres (165 feet)

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## ers. "They are being sum moned so they can explain themselves," the spokesman

said. "Any sanctions will de pend on how serious the charges are and their d Neither Auriol nor Kanl

kunen are in contention this year's World Ra Championship, to be decid between Spain's Carlos Sait and Britain's Colin McRae the British Rally Cha pionship Nov. 19-22

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inateur Athletic ad Tuesday Shevchenko te: n the Grand P Odogne. Germai ologne. Generally is. The analysis sample confirme seace of the bases in the athir ance in the athl k JAAF said. Shevehenko. eighth at the Wo rionships in i weden in Augu la Cologne. deleated world Lars Riedel with 08.04 metres (22 thes). He also be:

n Monaco with 6] 94 metres (222 The IAAF S chenko has been his title and Rie ecognised as the Prix champion.

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ar, will be replace ar, will be replace Dutch World Leo Beenhakk man for the Guar iub said on Tuest th we and Ardiles. that our aim we in attacking team xciting to watch oints, said club Salvador Marting

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g to the team;

iting results.

in this team ut couldn't under vhich seemed ung such as wants training at ten : ing or faking a ise they didn'i i adalajara, who ily use only 14 ers in a comp e up to five ton

e fielded by a let on of their for p with just two? matches. They L last two games enhakker, who to Netherlands in t. d cup, will ret. ican soccer less it. after being sa: erica in mystem: stances merica had dazie

a campaign a scored 78 goal. nhakker, who k. hed Dutch du aish Giants Realthe Saudi Aonal team duni: els, who told to merica subsequa. d and were know he semi-finals be runners-up Cru be Dutchman's t coaching job we kish first divisis nbulspor.

'oyota ımmon y FIA RIS (AP) — The n has been summe t Friday with Fli to explain the

ochargers found in last alunya Rally. he two cars, dreending world che lier Auriol and ikkunen, were t d when turbochare conform to Interes tomobile Federand ds, a FIA spokess ≳sday. After examining ed reports, the Fli reasons for the sion serious end amon the team f re information. Te did not specif

ctions, if any, at sught against the m They are being ned so they can firmselves." the spot d. "Any sanctions" nd on how send arges are and the Neither Auriol 100 nen are in contemis year's World tween Spain's Carle d Britain's Colin Mid Desired Pally 1

e British Rally mship Nov. 19.71 SHED FLAT (furniture of very q.m., It consists of ption, three baths. s kitchen and a poli-Telephone ave Street

## **Sports**

MELBOURNE (AFP) -The 23-million-dollar (\$17 million U.S.) development of court, eight Rebound Ace Flinders Park was on target for completion before next January's Australian Tennis Open, tournament director Paul McNamee said Wednes-

Russian

thrower

4-year ban

MONTE CARLO (AP) — Grand Prix discus champion

Dmitry Shevchenko of Rus-

sia has been banned for four

years after testing positive for

steroids, the International

Amateur Athletic Federation

for metandienone metabolite

at the Grand Prix meet in

Cologne, Germany, on Aug. 18. The analysis of the "B"

sample confirmed the pre-

sence of the banned subst-

ance in the athlete's urine,

Shevchenko, 27, finished

eighth at the World Cham-

pionships in Goteborg,

In Cologne, the Russian

defeated world champion

Lars Riedel with a throw of

68.04 metres (223 feet-3 in-

ches). He also beat Riedel in

September's Grand Prix final

in Monaco with a throw of

67.94 metres (222 feet-11 in-

The IAAF said Shev-

chenko has been stripped of

his title and Riedel will be

recognised as the 1995 Grand

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Shevchenko tested positive

discus

gets

said Tuesday.

the IAAF said.

Sweden, in August.

The development includes puter (rankings) points for wo new show courts, a clay players and almost double two new show courts, a clay hardcourts, a garden square development. and a function centre.

"We're going for double the action at the 1996 Australian Open," said McNamee. "We have double the com-

the venue size with the new

McNamee said he had already received entries from French Open champion Thomas Muster, Goran Iva-

nisevic, Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Wayne Ferreira for the January 15-28 Grand Slam.

McNamee said he expects all the sport's top players to be here for the Australian Open, with Andre Agassi and Mary Pierce defending their 1995 titles.

## Lazio, Liverpool suffer shock exits

PARIS (AFP) — Liverpool and Lazio, scorers of 10 unanswered goals at the weekend, were cut down to size in sufferring shock UEFA Cup second round exists on Tuesday to Brondby of Denmark and French side

Lyon were joined in the third round by countrymen Bordeaux. They achieved what 'Manchester United had failed to do in the previous round, beating Russians Rotor Vol-

However, Nottingham Forest extended English sides' 17-year-old winning streak against French opponents in the three European

cups, beating Auxerre 1-0 on aggregate.
Liverpool were undone by a late goal from the Danish side, an invaluable away counter, that required the highflying Premiership club to score twice. Norwegian defender Dan Eggen rose to head home from a corner in the 78tb minute.

Coach Roy Evans said: "Obviously we are bitterly disappointed but we weren't at our sharpest and we paid for it."

Lyon, only in the middle of the French First Division this season, shocked Lazio beating them 4-1 on aggregate, 2-0 on the night. Ecstatic coach Guy Stephan, who replaced

former French international Jean Tigana in the summer, said: "We were magnificent. We worked really hard and really effectively, we deserved this result. I am so happy for the players."
The Rome side, 4-0 winners over Juventus

on Sunday, conceded a 21st minute goal and missed a penalty within a minute of that to compound their misery. Lyon playmaker Ludovic Giuly played a

21-year-old striker Florian Maurice ran onto it to strike the ball past Fernando Orsi. Lazio were offered an immediate chance to redress the balance. Lyon midfielder Christophe Devaux conceded a penalty, which

.....

flared up.

tendinitis in her left knee,

since her return to profes-

sional tennis this summer and

the problem became more

serious while she was practis-

ing on the indoor carpet for

this week's tournament.
"I came here early to prac-

tise, hoping that a few days

practice would get my knee used to this surface," Seles

superb ball over the Lazio defence and

Italian international striker Giuseppe Signori sidefooted wide, with the keeper Pascal Olmeta sent the wrong way.

Striker Eric Assadourian made it 2-0 in the 57th minute, although farcical Lazio defending contributed to it.

The outstanding Giuly made a darting run into the box, evaded Di Matteo's wild lunge and threaded the ball across the goalline. The ball evaded Orsi but defender Alessandro Nesta should have cleared, only to hack wildly at the ball, and Assadourian slid in at the far post to put it away to seal an extraordinary

Bordeaux's hero against the stylish Russian side Rotor Volgograd was Antoine Bancarel, acting as the lone striker. I the 83rd minute he seized on a long ball from midfielder Daniel Dutuel, beat three defenders, clipping the ball into the net from the edge of the area.

-It was just reward for the team who qualified through the much maligned Intertoto Cup summer tournament.

Swiss side Lugano, who beat Inter Milan in the first round, campaign was ended with a 3-1 loss on aggregate to Czech side Slavia

Portuguese giants Benfica almost went the same way as Liverpool and Lazio. With three minutes to go they trailed Dutch side Roda JC Kerkrade 2-1 on aggregate. However, in an astonishing finale, their Moroccan international striker Hassan scored twice to break Dutch hearts, Benfica winning 3-2 on aggre-

British representation was reduced to just Forest as both Leeds United and Scotland's Raith Rovers were eliminated. The sad fact is that since English clubs returned to European competition only Norwich, Liverpool and now Forest have reached the third round.

Forest failed to score against Auxerre, but thanks to Steve Stone's lone goal in the first leg in France it was enough.

Seles withdraws

with ailing knee

OAKLAND (R) — Monica Seles, who was scheduled to return to the WTA Tour at Steffi Graf last month on Steffi Graf last mont

the Bank of the west Cleased this week, withdrew from the day.

Seles, ranked co-number Seles, ranked co-number

Tuesday when a knee injury one with Graf since returning

either Wednesday or Thurs-

to tennis after nearly two and

her infamous stabbing in

Hamburg in 1993, is next

scheduled to play at the season-ending WTA Cham-pionship in New York.

of top seed Seles has opened

the door for American Zina

Garrison-Jackson and sixth

seed Irina Spirlea of Roma-

nia, who each won first-

round matches.

Meanwhile, the withdrawal

a half years away bec

## Australian Open venue almost ready Tyson breaks thumb, fight off

LAS VEGAS (R) — Mike Tyson and his handlers concealed a broken thumb he suffered three weeks ago, hoping he could still fight Buster Mathis Jr. on Saturday, but the former heavyweight champion refractured the bone, forcing postponement of the bout.

Tyson, looking for his second victory of his comeback following three years in prison, said after the fight was officially postponed on Tuesday night that he 'wasn't acting professionally" in trying to go through with the fight.

I thought I could sneak it through. It's not my job to think as a doctor.

"My objective is to basically fight, but the pain became too intense and it continued hurting during sparring sessions," said Tyson, who reinjured the thumb on Monday.

"I believe it happened in Ohio right before I came here and then again yesterday," Tyson said.

Tyson, 28, sparred publicly on Monday and in private on Tuesday afternoon, apparently with a broken right thumb.

On Monday, the former heavyweight champion shook his hand as if it was bothering him in a two-round sparring session and said afterward that it was a little sore. He appeared to not throw as many rights as he might have, but he did land several hard right hands.

Dr. Gary Marrone, a Las Vegas orthopedic surgeon, said Tyson came to him two weeks ago and said he had injured the thumb a week earlier while sparring.

"We weren't sure whether three weeks was sufficient enough for Mike to fight," Marrone said. "But Mike wanted under any circumstances to be able to fight, to not have to cancel this. So we gave it three weeks."

But X-rays taken late Tuesday afternoon showed that "the fracture that aiready started to reheal had basically rebroken. At this point there was no way we could medically release Mike to fight," said Marrone, describing the fracture as being between the main joint and

the tip of the thumb.
"We feel that it will probabiy be at least another four to six weeks before we would allow him to fight Marrone said. Another Tyson doctor,

Gerald Higgins, said it did not appear that Tyson, who was to receive \$10 million to fight Mathis, would require surgery to correct the injury. Michael Marley, a spokes-

Mike Tyson. There was no

man for promoter Don King, said the fight will be rescheduled.

Tyson's manager, John Horne, said: "Buster Mathis is under contract to fight



conference Ct. 31 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. Tyso's Nov. 4 fight against Buster

on Tyson's right hand (Reuters photo)

Tyson said.

Three had been much con-

way there \ll be anybody but Buster lathis, and we hope to fights soon as possi-

But Joey ariello, Mathis' trainer, saidearlier that he doubted the fight would be re-schedu d and that Mathis, whowas to receive \$800,000 fo the fight was first heard te fight was off.

Mathis, 2 said he still
hoped he wold fight Tyson.

"It's a prity serious setback as far s the continuation of costant fights," Tyson said. It's not going to kill me. I'mnot hurting for

any money r anything.
"I was relly in anticipation for thi fight to go on
knowing theother fight was
across the street," said

Bowe and Evander Holyfield, also on Saturday night. "It (would have been) a grand evening that night with

Tyson, referring to the

heavyweight bout between

troversy over scheduling the former champions Riddick two fights on the same night. Originally they both were to have been on pay-per-view cable television, but Tyson-Mathis was moved to free the two fights going on," television.

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#### told reporters in à telephone Crafty veteran Garrison served and volleyed her way news conference on Tuesday "Unfortunately, it made the problem worse," added to a 6-3 3-6 6-3 victory over Venezuela's Maria Vento. Seles, who was expected to

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(Arabic) Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 Weekend At Bernies Part II

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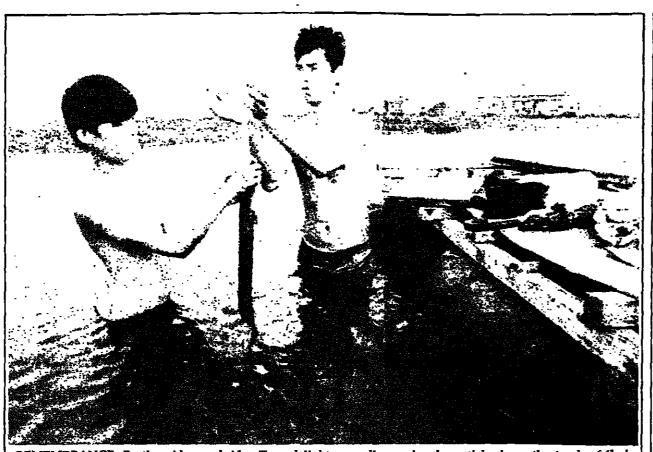
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REMEMBRANCE: Brother Alan and Alex Tongol light a candle in a bamboo stick above the tomb of their mother in the submerged San Matias cemetery in Santo Tomas, te Philippines, as Filipinos observe the All Saints Day. It took the brothers about half an hour to search in the water to locate the fomb. Cemeteries near Mount Pinatubo disappeared under mudflows and floodwaters ureashed by torrential rains (AFP photo)

## 4 killed in Lebanon flare-up; 5 Israelis injured

MARJAYOUN (Agencies) Three pro-Israeli militia-men and a Hizbollah fighter were killed in heavy fighting in Israel's self-declared security zone in South Lebanon on Wednesday, officials said.

Five Israeli troops and two militiamen were also wounded in attacks by the Hizbollah group, on the day Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shaqaki was buried in Damascus after his assassination by suspected Israeli agents (see page one). Hizbollah said the attacks were dedicated to the "mar-

tyr" Shaqaki. The group, which was closely allied to Shaqaki, attacked two positions held by the South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia around dawn, killing two militiamen and wounding three others, the SLA said. One of them later died of his injuries. A Hizbollah fighter was killed and three others were wounded in the fighting at one of the posts, Bisri, near Jezzine in the east of the 1.000-square-kilometre zone, hospital officials in Sidon

Hizbollah wounded four Israeli soldiers in a bomb attack on a patrol two hours later at Braachit on the edge of the security zone, the SLA

An Israeli military spokesman said two of the soldiers were in serious condition and the other two only lightly hurt. They had been evacuated to hospital in Israel.

The Israelis struck back by dispatching four fighterbombers which fired eight missiles at Hizbollah positions in Louaizeh in the Iglim

at Toufahneights southeast of Sidon, olice said. There were no casualties, they added.

Israeli rtillery gunners fired almo: 200 shells at Hizbollah strogholds, includingfour village, police said. The guerrillas retaliated with dozens of mortar rounds, wounding fifth Israeli soldier, according to the SLA.

In Beiru Hizbollah said in a statemenits fighters raided Bisri post ad planted a Hizbollah flaghere. The attack inflicted everal casualties among the SLA, Hizbollah

Later, te SLA sources said guerrlas rained down shells on n SLA post at Braachit ad fired mortar bombs at ajoint Israeli-SLA outpost atRihane and two other nearly positions for the

Israeli-allied militia. The guerrillas also set off two roadside bombs near an SLA armoured patrol at Beit Yahoun, on the edge of the western flank of the Israeliheld border zone but no one was hurt.

Hizbollah guerrillas, stepping up their attacks as israel's peace talks with Lebanon and Syria languish. killed nine Israeli soldiers in two attacks last month, raising the year's total to 22 one more than in all of 1994.

Israel wants Syria, which has 35,000 troops in Lebanon, to rein in the guerrillas. Damascus says the guerrillas have every right to resist foreign occupation.

Some 1,000 Israeli troops and 3,500 allied SLA militia

## NATO candidates seek Washington's approval

THE HAGUE (AFP) - The two-horse race for NATO's top post entered the home straight Wednesday when the leading candidates both flew to Washington for what could prove decisive talks with U.S.

officials. Former Netherlands Prime Minister Ruad Lubbers, who seems to be the leading candidate to become the next NATO chief although he has yet to officially declare, left for the U.S., a Dutch foreign ministry spokesman said.

Danish Prime Minister Poul Nyrup Rasmussen said Wednesday that Denmark was continuing to back Uffe Ellemann-Jensen's candidacy for the post, vacated by Willy Claes last month over corruption allegations.

But he added to journalists: "Denmark will not raise an obstacle if another candidate.... got a consensus within the alliance. Mr. Ellemann-Jensen, a

former Danish foreign minis-ter, was leaving for Washington on Wednesday after-noon, according to the Ritzau news agency in Copenhagen. The trip - during which he

is to have meetings Thursday with U.S. officials including Secretary of State Warren Christopher — fuelled belief

KABUL (AP) - Rebei gun-

men from the Taliban militia

pounded the Afghan capital

day, killing four people and

wounding at least eight

others, government officials

The attack came amid a

new threat against the capital

Kabul by a second guerrilla faction based in northern

Rebel leader Rashid Dos-

tum said his forces would

converge on the capital in a

coordinated attack in two

weeks if a viable peace for-

mula was not put into place.

under siege by Talibans posi-

tioned along the southern

outskirts of the city.

The capital is already

Aighanistan.

with artillery fire Wednes-

that Mr. Ellemann-Jensen was still being considered as a possible NATO secretarygeneral, despite France's

"The procedure is that someone who wants to be a candidate must present himself to the United States government." Dutch foreign ministry spokesman Frank de Bruin said.

While the NATO secretary-general is chosen by European members, their S. partner in the Atlantic alliance has final approval.

The post of secretarygeneral, the alliance's top civilian job, traditionally goes to a European while the top military commanders are

On Tuesday, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation foreign ministers, appeared to have settled on Mr. Lubbers as their choice to replace Mr. Claes, after Germany joined Britain and France in sup-

porting him. However, Mr.Ellemann-Jensen received invitations to the U.S. and Canada the same day, forcing him to hurriedly cancel a press conference called to announce that he was withdrawing his

Talibans pound Kabul withheavy artillery

## Syrin rejects Rabin's 'teriorism' accusation

DAMASCIS (R) - Syria on Wednsday rejected Israeli Prie Minister Yitzhak Rabiis accusation that it was a "catre of terrorism" harm anyce.

"Rabin's false accusation to Syria is ot only aimed at deforming yria's image and diverting ittention from Israel's arreance, but also at directing nw threats against Syria." theofficial daily Al Baath said

"But Isrel is making the wrong calciation this time." the paper ided.

Mr. Raba told an Israeli parliamentaly committee on Tuesday the Syria was "a centre of teorism" and that Damascus ruld not dictate the peace rocess.

An offici who briefed reporters on the closed-door meeting quied Mr. Rabin as saying he atepted his military's intellignce assessments that the thret of war had not

"What Rbin is trying to forget is we known to the world that trael was established by trorism and is based on errorism." Al Baath said.

"Israel, a its newspapers admitted ysterday, considers terroris and assassinations as to priority for its

activities," the paper said. The Islamic Jihad movement in Palestine, which has an office in Damascus, accused the Israeli Mossad innating its leader Fathi Shaqaqi in Malta last week and vowed to take revenge.

"Syria which is defending its rights and the rights of its (Arab) Nation for security and freedom does not harm anybody and does not threaten lives of people as Israel does against Lebanon and as the Mossad does....'

Al Baath said. Another daily, Tishrin, said: "Syria is haven for all national forces and there is a big difference between legitimate resistance against occupation and terrorism."

It said Mr. Rabin was trying to "mix realities so that a terrorist becomes a hero and a national struggler, who confronts occupation and defends his lands, becomes a

Israel, Tishrin added, "has espoused the path of terrorism, killings and massacres since its establishment."

Mr. Rabin said Syria's refusal to evict Palestinian groups, such as Islamic Jihad and Hamas, was a key obstacle to peace negotiations between the two adversaries.

## Palestinian aid held up in U.S. Senate wrangle

WASHINGTON (R; - Authority for President Bill Clinton to provide aid to the Palestinians expired at midnight on Tuesday, victim of a dispute between his administration and right-wing Republican Senator Jesse

Because of an objection by Mr. Helms, the Senate failed to act on a bill extending a waiver of U.S. restrictions against the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) put in place before the PLO became an official player in the Middle East peace process.

Mr. Helms, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, blocked action on the renewal because of lack of progress in negotiations on his bill reorganising the State Department.

The Democratic negotiator, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, deplored holding a vital Middle East peace hostage to an internal

He said Democrats were prepared to negotiate again Wednesday but not while the

two issues were linked. Our ally, Israel doesn't deserve to have the peace process made hostage to bureaucratic decision-making

Libya

promises

CAIRO (AFP) — Libya has

promised to pay off around \$2 million in dues owed to the

Arab League within "a few days" in a bid to ease the

pan-Arab body's budget cri-

sis, a league official said

The official, who asked not

to be named, said Libya had

presented "an official memo

to the league saying that it will pay the remainder of its

dues for the 1995 budget

within a few days."

The official said the re-

maining dues amounted to

around \$2 million, since Tri-

poli had already paid part of

its \$3.32 million annual con-

League sources had said

Monday that Libya had given

refusal to the league's

general secretariat when it

requested the pending dues.

debtor to the league, owing

\$20.5 million from the 1995

and past budgets. Iraq tops

the list of debtors, with

cumulative debts of \$29.8

League members have

failed to pay some \$10.6 mil-lion out of 1995's \$27.6 mil-

lion budget, throwing the

league into a financial crunch

that has left it unable to pay

its employees for the rest of

On top of this year's

budget squeeze, the 22-

member organisation is already \$107 million in

arrears from members' fai-

The annual budget is fi-

nanced by quotas ranging from one to 14 per cent of the

budget fixed for each mem-

ber according to its gross

Mohammad Al Sayed, the

secretary general's financial

advisor, said Wednesday the

crisis had already forced the

league to close offices in

domestic product.

pension fund.

lure to pay up past dues.

Libya is the second largest

to settle

league

dues

Wednesday

tribution.

process in this country," Mr. Kerry said.

Mr. Helms' action to block the so-called Middle East Peace Facilitation Act (MEP-FA) followed his refusal to approve the nominations of 18 U.S. ambassadors because of the dispute over the State

The bill as drafted would fold three separate agencies into the State Department. It also includes a permanent extension of the MEPFA. Republican leader Bob Dole said U.S. Middle East

called from Israel to express concern about delay in enacting the MEPFA. Congress has already extended the MEPFA three times this year, pending enactment of permanent leg-

negotiator Dennis Ross, had

The Senate's failure to do so again followed Congress's action a week ago to require the U.S. embassy in Israel to be moved to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv by May 1999, a vote that sparked Arab criticism.

Mr. Dole said Mr. Helms was within his rights to block Scnate action and blamed administration "intransigence" on the State Depart-

Mr. Helms blamed Mr Kerry for the impasse, saying that "he keeps moving the

goalposts" in negotiations. In Cairo, Egypt's highest Islamic authority, the grand mufti, said Wednesday that the U.S. Congress vote to move its embassy to Jerusalem proved Washington's towards the Jewish 'bias'' state.

Sheikh Mohammad Sayed Tantawi told state radio that last week's vote was "a bad one" in light of agreements between Israel and the PLO to discuss the final status of Jerusalem in May 1996.

"The rush to move the American embassy shows the blatant bias for Israel," the mufti said. "This bias constitutes a reversal from commitments which have been

Sheikh Tantawi called on Islamic countries to "work to save Jerusalem and restore justice" to maintain "the in-

East peace process.

## tegrity of the holy places." U.S. President Bill Clinton

has promised to use a delay mechanism in the Senate vote to block the measure indefinitely, to protect the Middle

Rifkind seeks to revive

Syria-Israel peace talks LONDON (AP) - Expressing Britain's "unreserved support" for the Middle East peace process. Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind has said he was heading for the Middle East next week to discuss how to move negotiations forward.

"Clearly there is a momentum in the peace process," he said. "I think it's in everyone's interest that that momentum is not lost."

Mr. Rifkind's six-country trip follows this week's failed attempt by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to revive stalled negotiations between Israel and Syria, the major stumbling block to an overall peace settlement.
"From past form, progress

is likely to be slow. But there is I think evidence that both Syria and Israel do wish to move towards a resolution of their differences," Mr. Rifkind told a news conference late Tuesday.

'One of the issues which I will be wishing to explore is the extent to which there is scope for progress in the short term," he said.

Mr. Rifkind said he expects to meet with Syrian President Hasez Assad. Mr. Christopher met Mr. Assad on Monday, but failed to persuade him to resume talks with Israel.

The negotiations centre on Syria's demand for a complete Israel's withdrawal

from the Golan Heights. During his week-long trip, Mr. Rifkind will visit Jordan (Nov. 5-6), Saudi Arabia (Nov. 6-7), Lebanon (Nov. 7). Syria (Nov. 7-8). Israel and the occupied territories (Nov. 8-10) and Egypt (Nov. Ì0-11).

"The main purpose is to indicate ... our unreserved support to this peace process and to those who are taking it through," Mr. Rifkind said, noting this view was endorsed across Europe.

Mr. Rifkind said that during his visit to Palestiniancontrolled areas, he hopes to meet Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). He said he will also visit the Orient House, the PLO's headquarters in East Jeru-

Israel strongly objects to Orient House, saying it implies recognition of Palestinian claims to the city.

Mr. Rifkind said Britain does not support the U.S. Congress, which voted last week to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem.

"The international community has to be very sensitive to the fact that this is an unresolved issue," he said. During the trip, Mr. Rifkind said he also expects to

(Continued on page 7)

## Egypt releases son of **Brotherhood founder**

he said on Wednesday.

Mr. Banna, son of Brotherhood founder Hassan Al Banna and a leading member of the Egyptian Bar Association, said he and six other Brotherhood men were released early on Wednesday after five hours of question-

Ottawa, Tokyo, Brasilia, Buenos Aires, Dakar and after being charged with illeg-Nairobi, and that the Athens al assembly, obstructing transport, distributing leaflets that incited hatred of the government and shouting Brotherhood slogans," Mr. Banna said,

> during an election rally in the Cairo neighbourhood of Darb Al Ahmar where Mr. Banna is standing as a candidate for a coalition of Islamic parties which is allied to the Labour Party.

rally. This is a political case that will die. It has been fabricated by the ruling party's candidate in the area," Mr. Banna said.

Eighty-two members of the outlawed Brotherhood are already being tried in a Cairo military court on charges that include forming an illegal group, inciting people to revolt against the government. distributing anti-government leaflets, and giving money to fugitive Muslim militants and year on the grounds that the organisation had links with armed groups trying to over-

military court on antigovernment charges have withdrawn saying their clients were facing political not cri-Court sources said six new lawyers appointed by the military court to represent the men wanted to withdraw on Wednesday in solidarity

The case has been adjourned until Saturday. Seif Al Islam accused the authorities of harassing the Muslim Brotherhood to wreck its chances in the Nov.

"The government wants to impose restrictions on the 150 candidates of the Muslim Brotherhood and to terrorise the electorate not to vote for them," he charged on a press

His organisation said security forces had been holding another election candidate, Mustafa Abdul Baqui, without charge since

Seif Al Islam was the most

## Queen Elizabeth pleased with first

scheduled flight

WELLINGTON (R) -Oueen Elizabeth's firstever commercial flight was a success, a Buckingham Palace spokesman said Wednesday. The British monarch arrived in Auckland from London Wednesday morning after a 26-hour flight with 400 holidaymakers and commercial travellers. "The flight went very well indeed. The queen was superbly looked after," a spokesman travelling with the royal party told a news conference. The queen's flight saved New Zealand taxpayers an estimated New Zealand dollars 960,000 (\$630,000) at a time when the royal family has come under fire for overspending. The firstclass cabin on the Air New Zealand flight was Zealand screened off by a special security door and the cabin converted with seats removed to accommodate a dining room table and a special working area. The queen, in New Zealand to open a Commonwealth summit, had the entire first class section to herself and was screened off from the other passengers in the spe-cially modified area.

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### **New York waiter** gets royal slap

NEW YORK (AP) — A

waiter got a royal slap in the head - from an irute Prince Rainier who didn't like the man's jokes about Monaco's monarchy. But what did the prince expect at a restaurant named Pomp, Duck and Circumstance? The prince hit waiter Tim Ward at a gala honouring his late wife. Princess Grace, the Daily News said. Ward, who performs as a loudmouth clown at the circus-like restaurant, offered his wisecracks to a crowd that included Prince Rainier's children, Prince Albert and Princess Caroline. "Hey look at the little piggy prince, eating with his fingers" Ward shouted as he passed the royal family, the newspaper quoted witnesses as saying. He also quipped, you're Prince Albert now, but if there were elections, would you

be plumber Albert?" Prince Rainier appeared to become annoyed with the jester after a projectile landed near his dinner partner. socialite Lynn Wyatt, the news said. In keeping with the restaurant's wacky atmosphere, the royals came up with some antics of their own. The prince and Ms. Wyatt engaged in a food fight with Prince Albert, using spoons, restaurant spokeswoman Simone Martel told the news. And Prince Rainier threw a strawberry at Ward, who turned around as the prince motioned to him. And then, His Royal Highness took a good shot at Ward's bead with his open hand, said one witness. The shocked waiter reportedly left the tentrestaurant, skipping a planned photo session with

### Baryshnikov renounces classical dance

the royal family.

LISBON (AFP) - Dance legend Mikhail Baryshnikov said Wednesday he would never return to classical dance, but that he would one day go back to his narive Russia, which he left in 1974. Aged 47 and now aware of his physical limitations, Baryshnikov, said he had given up classical dance because it required daily training Besides, he added: "Modern dance now appeals to me more."

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#### The Talibans on Wednesday morning launched at least seven 152 artillery rounds into central Kabul's Pol-e-Mohammad Khan district close to the Defence Ministry building and pres-

idential palace, the government said. "We have treated ten pa-tients from the attack," said Jurnhuriat hospital's Dr. Siddiq, who like many Afghans

uses only one name. "Two of

them died." One of the seriously wounded victims was fiveyear-old boy. Dr. Siddig said. Another two people were killed instantly in the artillery attack, a government spokesman said.

Inside the hospital, worried relatives milled around the emergency department's entrance awaiting word on the condition of the victims. A trail of blood dotted the floor from the waiting area into the emergency ward.

Most of the rounds landed in a park area in central Kabui, although the damages and injuries were caused when one round landed on a A checkpoint guard who

was on duty at the time of the attack said the barrage was launched by the Talibans. who have been trying to topple the government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani. Taliban commanders, who

hope to establish strict Islamic rule throughout Afghanistan, have vowed to attack military targets in Kabul as part of their latest push on the capital.

Last month, an onslaught



of Talibansnarched to within five kiloetres of Kabul's

southern orskirts. Their acance has since stalled, wh government troops holing the rebels to their positios in the Rishkor hills aroun the city's southern limits. Althoug General Dosattack could be fatal to the government. Analysts have said Kabui could not hold off simultaneous attacks from both the north and south, but the gov-

tum's forces are not allied

with the Talibans, the dual

ernment insists it will hold firm.
"We have experience of coordinated opposition attacks," said government spokesman Amrullah. "It will be hard, but it will not

destroy the government." The government controls less than a quarter of Afghanistan and is sourrounded by hostile factions on all sides. More than 25,000 people have been killed in Kabul. which has faced the brunt of Afghanistan's bitter threeyear civil war.

Formerly allied guerrilla forces toppled the communist regime in Kabul in 1992, but then turned their guns on one another in a battle for ultimate control over the coun-

The latest fighting comes despite repeated efforts by the United Nations to broker a ceasefire and lasting peaceful solution to the conflict.

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyp-tian police have released on bail prominent Muslim Brotherhood member Ahmad Seif Al Islam Al Banna after charging him with illegal assembly and distributing anti-government leaflets.

office would be closed at the end of this year.
The crisis also forced the league in 1994 to borrow \$4.7 million from its employees "This crisis is not a surprise. It has built up over a number of years," Mr. Sayed

told the press. He recommended that member countries agree to take up the dues owed by five countries, which he did not name, "unable to pay their contributions due to special circumstances

countries, amounting 14.5 per cent of the budget, would be "divided up among other countries provided they are convinced there are good reasons for their inability to pay." Mr. Sayed said. He also called on nine countries which have dis-

The dues from the five

puted parts of their dues to "bring their reservations up" with the league at a special commission created by the secretary-general Esmat Abdul Meguid

throw the government.

"We were released on bail

The men were arrested

"It was just a legal election

Egyptian police have arrested more than 150 members of the Brotherhood this

Brotherhood officials have denied the charges and said the government crackdown was aimed at preventing members from running in the elections. Lawyers representing 49 members of the Brotherhood being tried in an Egyptian

minal charges. with the original defence team but were ordered to remain on the case by the

29 parliamentary elections.

senior Brotherhood leader to be arrested since police began the crackdown on the group. Hassan Banna, who founded the Brotherhood in 1928,

was assassinated in 1949.

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Baryshnikov, who is perfer

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